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LEND A HAND.

A RECORD OF PROGRESS.

Vol. XVIII. FEBRUARY, 1897. No. 2.

With the new birthday of the constitution and the inauguration of a new President, one is tempted to review the conditions in which the great moral enterprises of the nation are found. Every thoughtful person knows that the foundation of political success, and of any development in material wealth, is to be laid on the Eternal Rock. If not laid there it cannot be called a foundation. The conductors of this journal, and those who read it, regard it as a "Record of Progress." And they know that there is no real progress unless the conscience of the nation is actively at work in the determination that what is attempted shall be Right and not Wrong.

I. The enterprise to which Lend a Hand has given most attention in the last two years has been the establishment of A Permanent Tribunal, to which may be referred the questions arising between the great nations of the world, with more hope of a speedy solution than when they are left to the cumbrous methods of diplomacy, and to a more righteous and humane solution than when they are left to the arbitrament of war.

In the hopes of such a tribunal a great step has been made forward in the Great Agreement, resulting in a treaty, agreed to by Mr. Olney and Lord Salisbury, for a High Court, of the most august authority, to act in such discus-

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sions between England and America. The confirmation of this treaty has been delayed, not unreasonably, perhaps. The new President calls attention to it in the following pregnant passage in his inaugural address:

It has been the policy of the United States since the foundation of the government to cultivate relations of peace and amity with all the nations of the world, and this accords with my conception of our duty now.

We have cherished the policy of non-interference with the affairs of foreign governments, wisely inaugurated by Washington, keeping ourselves free from entanglements either as allies or foes, content to leave undisturbed with them the settlement of their own domestic concerns. It will be our aim to pursue a firm and dignified foreign policy, which shall be just, impartial, ever watchful of our national honor, and always insisting upon the enforcement of the lawful rights of American citizens everywhere.

We want no wars of conquest; we must avoid the temptation of territorial aggression. War should never be entered upon until every agency of peace has failed; peace is preferable to war in almost every contingency. Arbitration is the true method of settlement of international as well as local or individual differences.

It was recognized as the best means of adjustment of differences between employers and employees by the 49th Congress in 1886, and its application was extended to our diplomatic relations by the unanimous concurrence of the Senate and House of the 51st Congress in 1890.

The latter resolution was accepted as the basis of negotiations with us by the British House of Commons in 1893, and upon our invitation a treaty of arbitration between the United States and Great Britain was signed at Washington and transmitted to the Senate for its ratification in January last.

Since this treaty is the result of our own initiative; since it has been recognized as the leading feature of our foreign policy throughout our entire national history—the adjustment of difficulties by judicial methods rather than force of arms—and since it presents to the world the glorious example of reason and peace, not passion and war, controlling the relations between two of the greatest nations in the world, an example certain to be followed by others, I respectfully urge the early action of the Senate thereon, not merely as a matter of policy, but as a duty to mankind. The importance and moral influence of the ratification of such a treaty can hardly be over-estimated in the cause of advancing civilization. It may well engage the best thought of the statesmen and people of every country, and I cannot but consider it fortunate that it was reserved to the United States to have the leadership in so grand a work.

II. Our readers who are specially interested in the re-

pression and suppression of the use of intoxicants as common beverages, will welcome the publication of the report, so long expected, by a commission of men of distinction, long engaged in public service, on the success or failure of the efforts made in the several states for the regulation of the liquor traffic.

III. LEND A HAND has been the official organ of Ramabai's work in the education of Indian widows in Hindustan. Our readers in the Ramabai Circles will still find the essential reports of the work as carried on in Poona. The ten years for which the circles were originally formed will expire with the passage of another year. The board of managers in America will be able to present a report, satisfactory beyond reasonable hopes, of their remarkable, their unprecedented adventure.

IV. THE special details of the work of the Lend a Hand Clubs, the King's Daughters, and other societies intended to train men and women in public spirit, can no longer be printed, month by month, in any journal. The large organizations of such societies have, very properly, their own special magazines. In the new series of this journal, we shall try, from time to time, to resume the results of such work. Its special promise is the evolution, as we may say, of a new generation, in the twentieth century, of men and women who have been trained from childhood to bear each others burdens.

V. The next number of this magazine which our readers will receive will be the enlarged and improved journal which represents LEND A HAND and the CHARITIES REVIEW. It has proved convenient in the arrangements for extending the scope of these journals to defer the united issue later than I supposed, in writing in December. Our old readers will welcome the March number with pleasure and satisfaction. Should any delay, by any accident, be observed in the delivery of the March number, they will address N. S. Rose-128 Second Avenue, New York city.

EDWARD E. HALE.

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DANGERS OF THE SPOILS SYSTEM.*

BY LUCIUS B. SWIFT.

Some years ago the general assembly of Indiana was the scene of a busy struggle to secure the reorganization of the benevolent institutions of the state. No demand of public business nor any condition of the institutions themselves called for the change. The attacking force was a well-organized band, a faction of the party already in possession; its object was the capture of the places. The bill became a law, and its promotors, who had for weeks constituted the "third house" of the general assembly, gave a dinner in celebration, and then, as members of boards, superintendents, stewards, and so on, went into enjoyment of the captured spoil.

Some four years later it fell to me to assist in an investigation of the state hospital for the insane at Indianapolis made by a house committee of the general assembly. The investigation occupied three weeks.

This hospital was beautifully situated, with male and female departments in great separate buildings, standing in ample and shady grounds. Its board had the disposal of about $300,000 a year. Yet in this modern environment, with ample funds, which made possible the application of the most humane and enlightened principles of the nineteenth century, the place was honey-combed with medieval notions and practices—unsympathetic, cruel, barbarous, and corrupt. Every employee, the doctor, the ward attendant, the clerk, the carpenter, the washerwoman, must not only bear the party stamp, but must be of the faction which had captured the hospital; and so fierce was the demand for a share, that in the 330 places we found there had been 648 changes in four years, Along the same line, the contracts for supplies,

* A paper read at the National Conference of Charities and Correction, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1896.

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with few exceptions, had been left to those who had helped in the capture or who had obtained some later hold upon the board. As might have been expected, we found an untold amount of misery inflicted upon the thousand helpless inmates by this aggregation of inexperience and knavery. Not one of the employees had an incentive to do well, for the place was not secured by merit nor held by efficiency. Physical force, not infrequently assisted by blows, sometimes with the club, was the quick resort of inexperience and inefficiency, and, in cases, was carried to extreme cruelty. Contracts were made and prices were paid for the best articles; yet through the steward's office there was an endless procession of supplies foreign to the contracts; decayed meats, decayed butter, decayed vegetables, hogs infected with cholera, shelf-worn goods, and so on. The whirlwind had been thoroughly reaped.

This hospital was a full development. Perhaps nowhere in the country among hospitals does such a case exist today; but it is not certain that there may not be one tomorrow. This was a natural and legitimate outcome of the spoils system, a system which is never asleep and whose restless and unscrupulous activity has given of late years an increasing number of full fruitions. There was this hospital. There is Tammany Hall, which robbed and blackmailed the people of New York. There is the state of New York, where no law can be passed without the consent of Platt. There is Pennsylvania, in which free government has reached a like suspended condition under Quay. There is Senator Murphy's city of Troy, which classes Bat Shea among the saints. And wherever good government has been laid waste the cause is always the same—favoritism moved by a thousand motives, the spoils system with its one doctrine that every item of public transactions is to be given a twist for personal or party benefit, and practiced in so many governmental functions, that every rising generation imbibes the idea that public business is not as private business; that it does not

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call for the same abstention from deceit and peculation, but that everything is fair in politics.

Now, it is not only true in experience, but it is true as an axiom, that the presence of favoritism in the conduct of any public business is detrimental. There is no human nature the world knows of which can stand the test of its exercise —or which can stand the test of the opportunity of its exercise. There is no public institution in whose management favoritism is an element in which progress is not retarded or is at a standstill, and which is not in danger of a development as rank and unhappy as the Indiana hospital I have described. Now if one says that he is an exception or that his board is an exception, that they have the power but they resist the temptation, I shall not dispute the statement, but I shall doubt their knowledge of themselves and I shall answer that if they have this almost unknown virtue, their successors in office will not have it. We find every grade of favoritism, but still it is favoritism. Where ordinary favoritism exists the condition is not creditable, but the public is used to it. At any moment, however, the developing power of a boss may send any institution so far down that the cry of misery becomes loud enough to be heard, and then the commonwealth feels the shame and disgrace.

I do not wish, however, to confine myself to extreme dangers. Take the average state institutions, benevolent, penal or reformatory, and they do not fix the attention at all, or they fix it because of things which are disagreeable. The impression made is of commonplaceness, of mediocrity, of powerlessness to advance.

We are always in hopeless waiting, either for the new set just in to become skilled or for some turn which will get rid of the old set of incapable and worthless favorites.

If you visit a prison you find the employees working in narrow lines. From lack of disposition or capability there is not enough of the play of honest human nature upon dishonest human nature to make it better. Is you ask a warden, who has been some time in place and has become

interested in his work, if there is no way to give natural manhood a better chance, he will tell you privately that the insuperable obstacle is lack of permanency in place and the foisting upon him of employees by one pull or another. He can keep the prisoners within the walls, he can keep them in order, and he can keep the cost of maintenance within a proper figure, but to carry out extensively a system based upon the possibility that the prisoner can be made better is impossible under the present method of employment. If you get into his confidenee, he lays before you the full action of this method with its aggregation of pulls; the party pull, which is the blanket mortgage over all, the party-faction pull, the church pull, the lodge pull, the family pull, and so on.

I am not a specialist, but I do not need to be told that the best treatment of prisoners can be had only through employees of intelligence determined by test, of fitness determined by trial, of experience obtained by long service, the tenure depending solely upon faithfulness and efficiency. I know that still more is this true of physicians and attendants in care of the insane, or teachers of the deaf and dumb and the blind. The time has passed for arguments with those who say that equally suitable or better employees are those who get their places at the arbitrary discretion of the authority which is "responsible" for the particular institution, but who get them in fact primarily; one because he is a relative of a member of the board, one to pay a legislator for his vote, one because a prominent politician requests it, one because the governor is building up a machine, and so on through the endless list of pulls. Such a contention says that there is nothing in the treatment of prisoners but to keep them within the four walls, in silence, in stripes, and walking in the lock-step; there is nothing in the care of the insane but to keep a mad-house—to prevent escapes, and the infliction of bodily harm, and keep down the cost of maintenance.

The country is familiar with the Indian Rights Association, of which Mr. Herbert Welsh has so long been the sec-

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retary. Its object has been not only to prevent the Indians from being plundered and murdered, but to raise them to the level of self-supporting civilized people. The object was entirely feasible. The process was the practice of common honesty in dealing, and by industrial and common education. The men and women united in this association for years spent large sums of money, and wherever there was a lull in political activity made noticeable progress. Intermittently, but inevitably, came the swoop of the spoiler, and, at his demand, experienced agents, trained teachers, and faithful employees of all kinds were swept out and their places taken by those who had "whooped 'er up" in the last campaign. For years from the subjects discussed at their conference, the association did not appear to realize the fundamental difficulty. Finally Mr. Welsh rose to the situation, and, declaring that the good accomplished would be destroyed as fast as accomplished while the spoils system existed, he took his place in the front rank of the National Civil Service Reform League and helped carry its cause on to the great victory which has been won. The spoils system has been destroyed in the Indian service. Having a clean instrument to work with in a civil service, where tenure depends solely upon faithfulness and efficiency, the way is clear to solve unhampered the great problems of Indian civilization.

A great wave of municipal reform is sweeping over the country. It has had the happy result of enlisting thousands of men who never before entered a reform movement. So far, unless its recent meeting was an exception, its league has laid its stress upon higher individual citizenship as the solution of the colossal difficulties presented by municipal government. The advance of that reform has been in the line of modern charters. The man who drew such a charter adopted by one of the finest cities in the West, told me that he knew nothing about civil service reform. While these charters are an improvement, municipal reform will not be accomplished under them, nor will it be accomplished at all

while any appointing officer may fill the places of policemen and firemen upon the pull system, or while the street gang may be made an almshouse where the local bosses quarter their followers. It is true that public morals are debauched, that individual citizenship is at a low grade and that it must be elevated, and that is the final object of all reform; but leaving the power of appointment by favoritism untouched, if we wait for municipal reform until this elevation takes place and the good citizens go to the primaries, and there contend with and overthrow the bosses, it will not come in our time. It is the spoils system more than all other things combined which has debauched public morals, and they will remain debauched while that system exists.

And so it is with state charitable and correctional institutions. I have looked over some years of the proceedings of this Conference, and have noted the wide range of the subjects discussed and the reports of progress in matters of charities and correction in the various states. I do not wish to minimize the great good which has been accomplished and the great influence which those interested in subjects germane to this association have had in causing an advance of public opinion; but it seems to me that in the failure to deal with the subject of the service in these institutions, the effects of the various causes which lead to appointment, retention, or removal, there is a fundamental failure to grapple with an obstacle which blocks your further progress. The processes of charities and corrections have been made ripe by these discussions for the widest and most beneficent development. What can be accomplished amounts to a revolution. Why is it so hard to make headway? I take the case of the Michigan city prison. It had a warden who had obtained his place by political influence. He was, however, an honest and capable man, and had become interested in his work. The prison was loaded with appointees made at the dictation of various pulls, but in the course of four years the warden had brought them into some sort of order and discipline, and both himself and most of them had reached the

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point where they might be said to have obtained, at the expense of the state, an elementary knowledge and some years of experience in the treatment of prisoners. The warden particularly was at the point where he might be expected to become a most useful man to the commonwealth, but at that point there was a party revolution in the general assembly. Adequate legislation was put through providing for the creation of a new board, which took the right view of the tariff question, and this board at once put into that prison, from the warden down, men whose views on the tariff were also sound, allowing, however, within that limit, the widest latitude for pulls, the new warden being a member of the party state committee. Let us grant that the new men are in themselves fair subjects for tutelage. In a few years they will have learned something at the expense of the state, but by that time it is more than likely that the necessities of the tariff or the currency will demand their dismissal. In the meantime this Conference will go on meeting, and will find this prison on the same plane as it has been for years. It is true that in many states the party wheels do not turn backward and forward so frequently as in Indiana. I know that where a party remains many years in power the service becomes in a manner settled and efficient, as was the case in the railway mail service in 1885. But no party remains forever in power, even in Pennsylvania, and there is therefore the standing menace that at any time the improvement of years may be destroyed.

Wherever the germs of the spoils system are there is constant danger of a ruinous development at the hands of politics. That system exists in general to-day, and the ideas which this Conference advocates and hopes to see adopted will not take permanent root. I may be contradicted, but I shall remain in the confidence of foreordination, that while that system lasts the institutions concerned will be found on the crude lines where they are. I shall also remain in an equally firm but more serene confidence that the system is doomed.

Within this generation two fundamental improvements have been made in civil administration; one is the merit system, where public employment and promotion are granted upon impartial tests to those to whom the competition, open to all, has determined best fitted. In unskilled employment the labor service system of registration has barred out politics and all kinds of favoritism in that department. These two systems are now on their conquering way against the combined power of party machines; against every kind of treachery, against ridicule and denunciation; they have pursued their irresistible march until the voice of the opponent is dumb; 85,000 places in the federal service have been wrenched from the spoiler, and already in states and cities the forward movement has begun. There is no question as to the result. The heathen may rage again and may again imagine a multitude of vain things, but politics and favoritism are to go out of the management of state institutions. Even party machines cannot resist the inevitable. These institutions will be filled with employees beholden to nothing but their own merit for appointment and who need look to nothing but faithfulness and efficiency for tenure. I do not claim that the introduction of any scheme for appointment, however good, will of itself clear public life of its dishonesty and inefficiency. The state of New York has for a number of years had a civil service law and has lately incorporated the principle into its constitution, yet Platt's legislature has just passed, and Platt's governor has just signed, a bill vacating the boards of eleven state hospitals, places filled for years by men and women serving disinterestedly and conscientiously without pay. New York city has for the same time had a civil service law, yet Tammany ran riot in every form. But what is it that is wresting from Platt step by step the spoils upon which his political life depends? It is the civil service amendment, backed up by the power of the courts. What is it that enables Theodore Roosevelt and Colonel Waring to build up the police and street departments of New York until their improvement attracts the at-

tention of the whole country? It is the civil service law and rules, and by these and these alone will Tammany Hall and Platt finally be broken. The high civilization which this Conference advocates will under such a system have a clean instrument to do its work. Its ideas will not be inculcated one year to be uprooted the next, but in the grasp of those who believe in them and who desire to work them out, their benefits will increase from year to year and from generation to generation.

THE MERIT SYSTEM IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF CHARITY AND CORRECTION.*

BY PROF. C. R. HENDERSON.

The "merit system" is a mode of social, rational selection to assist the rough process of natural selection to weed out the unfit, the incompetent. It is a moral invention of the age, as truly as the electric motor is a mechanical, technical invention. The merit system is an intellectual relative of the steam threshing machine! Its function is to exterminate egoistic parasites. It is offered as a substitute for the spoils system, whose chief function is to honor the lovers of themselves and the enemies of mankind, and to heap rewards and emoluments upon the treacherous and the incapable. We have many competent and honorable public officials even under the spoils system, but that is in spite of the spoils system and not in consequence of its legitimate work. Healthy and vigorous people are sometimes found in malarious districts, but malaria did not produce health. To define the merit system is to recommend it. To define the spoils system is to damn it. Society is required by its interest and its sympathy to support defectives and delinquents in its in-

* Paper read at the National Conference of Charities and Correction, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1896.

stitutions, but it is not under obligation to put defectives and delinquents in charge of its institutions as a reward for treasonable services rendered to unscrupulous politicians. The spoils system has a tendency to pick out the men who disgrace municipal politics, and to reward their unclean and selfish industry with titles and salaries. The merit system aims (1) to examine candidates and to apply tests which exclude at one stroke a mass of impudence, greed, ignorance, and imbecility; (2) to subject the novitiates to a probation which will bolt out the bran which is left, even after chaff and weeds have been winnowed away; (3) to offer inducements to public servants to do their very best, through hope of recognition and promotion; (4) to enable them by security of tenure to give their entire and undistracted thought to the technical duties of their office, undisturbed by the hurly-burly of local politics; (5) to open the service to the poor and to the rich, to the entire people, without partiality for social position, sect or party. The spoils system tends to narrow the range of selection to a little circle of boon companions of a malodorous henchman.

Society will secure the kind of servants which it chooses to reward. The spoils system makes trickery, bribery, and cringing venality the line of least resistance and of greatest reward. The merit system smooths the highway of fidelity, industry, efficiency, and honesty. Very good men will sometimes be found to serve their country without salary, but political wire-pullers never serve God without high wages. When they discover that empty pocket-books result from campaigns they will be induced to seek more useful occupations. The failure of the spoils system would seem to recommend even an untried merit system as a promising field of experiment. The political history of England before the days of civil service reform will instruct any one who desires to learn the natural fruits of a method based on selfishness and class spirit. America has tried the spoils system long enough to study the poisonous plant throughout its life, from unnoticed seeds to the expansion of its noxious

blossoms. The illustrations of these fruits shown in the report of the chairman of our committee, set forth the character of this malificent creation of partisanship and egoism. European experience demonstrates the economy and efficiency of the merit system and its social value in every direction. Dr. Albert Shaw gives reasons for declaring that this principle is so thoroughly accepted by all parties in Germany that if the radical social democrats gained control to-morrow they would not dream of changing the method of appointment. A partial trial of the merit system in America shows that our human nature is very much like the human nature of England and Germany, from which countries, by the way, much of American human nature has been directly imported. In our postal service, navy and army the merit system has shown good fruits,and won its way to the universal favor of all true patriots.

The merit system rests on the profound psychological law of the *necessity of habit in relation to progress*. The law is thus stated by a master of the science of psychology: "The function of association in the psychological life is the formation of a mechanism. It seems to connect the various elements of our mental life together by such firm bonds that they may be used as a foundation upon which to erect more complex mental structures. Habit thus (1) forms a self-executing mechanism whereby the mind apprehends readily and expeditiously those elements in its cognitive life which are regularly recurring, and adjusts itself in its actions to the permanent demands of its surroundings; and thereby (2) enables conscious intelligence to devote itself to the apprehension of variable elements, and the will to apply itself to the mastery of novel and changing acts."—(Dewey's Psychology, pp. 111-115). The bicycle rider cannot enjoy the flying landscape until his mastery of the wheel has become automatic. Now a great part of the routine business of an institution should become part of a mechanism, so that the administrative heads can give themselves to critical questions, to discovery and invention, to progressive methods.

But suppose these superintendents must expend a great part of their energies upon making peace with bosses! A system of examination, probation and merit promotion supplies the mechanism and leaves the higher officers free for their nobler functions of research. Mr. Isaac J. Wistar speaks from experience and direct observation: "It is scarcely necessary to add that the best results are only to be had by keeping them free from party considerations and party patronage. A prison official is never done learning. The greater his observation and experience, the more his value to the commonwealth and its prisoners. Struggles for political power through control of party patronage and spoils can have no place in prison polity, where the temporal and eternal welfare of thousands is concerned, and where training and experience are the qualities required. In such a great semi-charitable public interest, where questions of individual temperament and character hold the first place, the introduction of selfish considerations would seem more baleful than in a school or a church, because convicts are subjected to them while under forcible restraint, and because they are more concealed from public scrutiny and less accessible for popular correction. Any plan of prison management whatever must prove a moral and pecuniary failure unless all personal and selfish considerations can be absolutely and permanently excluded by effective law."—(Penal Administration in Pennsylvania, Lippincott's Magazine, April, 1896).

Consider the influence of the merit system on the character of the officials, and the necessarily malign influence of the spoils system on the character of those subjected to its sway. Under the merit system the official of a public institution secures and retains his position by obedience to the moral law of social welfare. The examination and the probation are based on the impersonal, intellectual order of life and the world. He has devoted himself to a mastery of the knowledge and art which are essential to his success in the profession to which he aspires. If he succeeds he owes it

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to his own worth, to a universal principle, to science and art, not to some petty patron. Thus surgeons, nurses, watchmen, engineers, pharmacists, superintendents, turnkeys, bacteriologists, should be chosen because they are in right relation to the moral order of nature and society. When they are in office they will feel that they owe allegiance to humanity, to the great commonwealth, to science and to their profession, not to a petty tyrant who has employed them and bound them with base promises to do the bidding of his arbitrariness and ignorance.

The merit system is demanded by our national honor before the world. We send our representatives to the International Penitentiary Congress. They tell with just pride of the Michigan system of child-saving. But they cannot boast of many of our county jails, city lock-ups, and neglected poor houses. They are ashamed to explain to the expert public servants in the institutions of Bremen, Hamburg and Dresden how our clerks get their places, and on what dishonorable and annoying terms they keep them. But these scandals are well known in Europe, and they are often supposed to indicate a deep-seated and universal depravity among the people who can tolerate such abuses without efficient protest. The fact that we have general suffrage makes the case all the blacker for us. Who does not read with blushes of shame these deserved sentences of Lecky's recent book on Democracy and Liberty: "This (President Jackson's policy) was the beginning of a system which has spread like a leprosy over all political life, and to which there is, I believe, no adequate parallel in history. * * * This spoils system has permeated and corrupted American public life to its very roots.

Limitations of the Merit System.

Objections have been urged against this mode of appointment. It is said that we cannot have a superior public service because the character and culture of the population is so

low. Candidates must come from the people and will be near the average. But in answer to this reflection on the national character, we can certainly claim that there is no nation which can furnish a larger proportion of capable men and women; that the spoils system tends to repel the honest and select the inferior; and that it hampers, worries and weakens good officers after they are appointed. Under the spoils system we can never secure the best public servants. Some fear a bureaucratic class of administration officers. But a people with wit and integrity enough to create a class will know how to hold it in its place. The German bureaucrats are gentle doves compared with the Tammany tiger.

Our country has rapidly become a land of cities without adjustment to the new conditions. Very swiftly we have passed from an agricultural to a manufacturing and commercial regime. In a rural community the need for a specialized and expert service is but little felt. Any citizen of average intelligence can turn from his plough to perform the simple duties of a neighborhood office. It was in the earlier and less complex social conditions that the sentiment favorable to "rotation in office" arose. Perhaps hatred of alien British office-holders in the colonial period aggravated the difficulty. Then the machine politicians have long had control of the agencies for forming traditions and customs, and the people are used to their yoke. It is also too true that the community are still willing to overlook wrongs done to the destitute and the delinquent. "Rattle his bones over the stones; only a pauper whom nobody owns." These are causes of social apathy, but they are not good reasons, and they must disappear before enlightenment and increase of sympathy and justice.

But how shall we promote this merit system? What are we to do about it? How can we fan the cooling embers of interest into a flame of righteous zeal? The people who are most competent to formulate appeals to the public conscience and heart are in this Conference. These appeals must show in detail, with reiteration and illustration, that the spoils

system is cruel and unjust; that it robs the public and hurts the poor; that it delivers slack and dirt on contracts for coal; that it leaves the helpless insane to drown, freeze or scald under the care of incompetent attendants; that it gives over the imbecile a prey to lust in county poor-houses; that it leaves children to be taught crime under police permission and tuition: that it gives the dependent sick to butcher quacks to be practiced on until they perish from malpractice; that the noblest penal legislation comes to grief under the administration of officials who are no more fit to reform offenders than a blacksmith is fit to make a watch. These appeals to the public must press the difficulty and dignity of the office of public charity and correction. Crime seems to be increasing. Pauperism is already a fearful burden. Misery needs a wise and tender hand for its healing. The most effective appeals will have local color. A most harrowing anecdote once over the state line is discounted fifty per cent. Even a minieball fails to cut the skin if it has traveled too far. Duels in earnest are fought at short range. The trickiest politician can grow red in the face denouncing spoilsmen in the next county. He cries "stop thief" to distract attention. All honor to the brave and capable men and women in our public institutions who are true, faithful, and capable under a system which is a disgrace to our nation. Such persons deserve especial honor and regard. In many places, boards and superintendents have introduced civil service rules of appointment and promotion without requirement of law and against the protest of unscrupulous political bosses; and sometimes this has caused a hard fight. But the men who secretly or openly defend the spoils system deserve no argument. They richly deserve chastisement. As Mr. Lecky says: "There is one thing which is worse than corruption. It is acquiescence in corruption." While we are fighting the battle against a wrong it does not taint us. Zero weather does not freeze those who are struggling with a snow drift, but when they lie down on it they are in danger of sleeping the sleep of death. We cannot carry

many reforms at once. And since we must select a few issues of paramount importance, let this be among the first to claim our service and our toils.

CRIME AND PAUPERISM.*

A semi-annual census of all the prisoners in the state of Minnesota is taken by this office, and this census reveals the gratifying fact that the proportion of prisoners in the community has been decreasing for the past ten years. There were in the state Dec. 31, 1885, 836 prisoners; Dec. 31, 1890, 931 prisoners, and Dec. 31, 1895, 1,080 prisoners. The increase was considerably less in proportion than the increase in the population of the state. The ratio of prisoners to the general population was as follows: Dec. 31, 1885, 748; Dec. 31, 1890, 716; Dec. 31, 1895, 687. The mid-summer census, taken June 30th of each year, shows a corresponding decrease in the ratio of prisoners to the general population. This decrease may be due in part to the operation of the parole system, but the returns show an actual decrease of the number of prisoners in the county jails and workhouses, which are not affected by the parole system.

The effect of the hard times upon the number of prisoners serving sentences in jails and workhouses has been exactly contrary to what might have been expected. The number of prisoners of this class in the state Dec. 31, 1892, was 383. June 30, 1893, the number had increased to 508. Dec. 31, 1893, it had been reduced to 388, almost the same number as at the same date of the previous year. June 30, 1894, the number had decreased to 244, since which time there has been a gradual increase as follows: Dec. 31, 1894, 269; June 30, 1895, 329; Dec. 31, 1895, 346; June

* Extract from the Seventh Biennial Report of the Minnesota State Board of Charities and Corrections.

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30, 1896, 361. If we take the two cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis this curious trend is still more marked. The number of prisoners serving sentence for misdemeanors in the cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Dec. 31, 1892, was 289; June 30, 1893, it had increased to 336; Dec. 31, 1893, it had decreased to 267; June 30, 1894, it had dropped to 150; since which time there has been a gradual increase, as follows: Dec. 31, 1894, 172; June 30, 1895, 187; Dec. 31, 1895, 194; June 30, 1896, 202. It appears, therefore, that both in the cities and in the country the hard times did not operate to increase the number of misdemeanant prisoners, and that notwithstanding what appeared to be a normal increase since 1893 we have not yet gotten back to the number of prisoners that were found in the state in the prosperous times of 1892. Several reasons have been given by municipal judges, superintendents of workhouses, sheriffs, and other practical observers. Some think that it is because the judges have been more lenient in sentencing vagrants and other misdemeanants in consideration of the hard times; others think that the decrease is due to the fact that people had less money to spend for intoxicating drinks, and consequently did not commit misdemeanors. There was a large exodus of the floating population to the Pacific coast and other prosperous points previous to 1893, which is thought to account for this fact in part. One officer said: "Hundreds of people of the vagrant class left Minnesota with Coxey's army and never came back."

Whatever may be the causes, the facts bear testimony to the courage and steadfastness with which the people of Minnesota have met the stress of the past three years.

It is too much to hope that Minnesota can escape altogether the operation of those causes which have uniformly produced an increase of the criminal classes as communities have grown older and civilization grows more complex, but we may at least hope that the character of our people and our institutions may continue such as to enable Minnesota to maintain the place which she has hitherto occupied in the

very lowest ranks of the states of the Union as regards the proportion of criminals. The census of 1890 showed that Minnesota had 800 criminals out of each million of her population, as against an average of 1,315 in each million for the United States. California had 2,813 in a million; Kansas, 1,351; Massachusetts, 2,335; New York, 1,912; Pennsylvania, 1,234; Michigan, 1,029; Illinois, 1,029; while Wisconsin had only 663; Iowa, 531; and the Dakotas, 538.

Minnesota's immunity from crime is largely due to the admirable character of her immigration, both native and foreign. The secretary of this board has made careful study of this subject, from which it appears that out of each million foreign born males of voting age in the United States there were in 1890 3,285 prisoners, but in Minnesota and Wisconsin there were only 1,735 prisoners out of each million foreign born males, while in Kansas the ratio was 4,255, in Montana 4,300, in California 5,295, and in Massachusetts 5,865.

It is a significant fact, and one for careful consideration, that while the foreign born males of voting age have only 3,285 prisoners in a million, the children of foreign born parents of the first generation have 5,475 prisoners in a million. In Minnesota the children of foreign born parents have nearly twice as many prisoners proportionately as their fathers. This fact illustrates on the one hand the difficulty which our foreign born residents have in training their children for the new environment, and on the other hand the importance of those preventive measures which are calculated to preserve the youth from falling.

The semi-annual pauper census reveals some interesting facts with reference to the effects of the hard times in the increase of pauperism.

This enumeration shows that the number of paupers relieved during the month of December, 1892, was 6,421,

which was about the same number as for the corresponding month of the two preceding years. In December, 1893, the number relieved was 12,000, nearly double that of 1892, and the number relieved in December, 1894 and 1895, was nearly the same.

The number of paupers relieved in the month of June, 1893, was 5,444, as compared with 469 in June, 1892. In June, 1894, the number relieved was 7,551, an increase of fifty per cent; and in June, 1895, the number relieved was 8,565, a further increase of 1,000.

A comparison of the cities with the rural districts indicates a marked difference in the effects. In the three counties of Hennepin, Ramsey and St. Louis, including the cities of Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth, the number of persons relieved in December, 1892, was 3,838, and the the number relieved in December, 1893, was 7,094, an increase of nearly 100 per cent. The number in December, 1894, was 6,256; December, 1895, 6,345, indicating a permanent increment to the pauper population. The number relieved in these three counties in June, 1894, was 814, an increase of 300 over the preceding year. The number relieved in June, 1894, was 3,113, an increase of 100 per cent. in two years. The number relieved in June, 1895, was 3,633.

In the rural districts, comprising the entire state, except the three counties named, the number of paupers relieved in December, 1892, was 3,655; in December, 1893, 4,905, an increase of only one-third. The number relieved in 1894 and 1895 was about the same as in 1893. The number relieved in June, 1892, was 3,336; June, 1893, 3,640; June, 1894, 4,438; and in June, 1895, 4,932. There was an increase of one-third from June, 1892, to June, 1894. While the number relieved in June, 1895, was 4,952, the number relieved in December, 1895, was only 5,207.

A further examination of these statistics indicates a marked difference in the methods of dealing with paupers in the cities and in the country. For example: In June,

1894, the number relieved in the cities was 3,113, and in December, 1894, 6,256, exactly twice as many; while in the country districts the number relieved in June, 1894, was 4,438, and in December, 1895, 5,098, an increase of only twelve per cent. In other words, the county commissioners throughout the state gave nearly as much relief in summer as in winter, while the authorities in the cities cut off relief in the summer and increase it in the winter.

We have had occasion in the past to call attention to the pauperizing effect of the system of pensioning paupers the year round. The most practicable remedy for this evil is the education of the officers who dispense the relief, by investigating the systems employed in the best managed counties and by attendance upon such gatherings as the State Conference of Charities. We are convinced that fully one-third of the amount dispensed for outdoor relief can be abated without hardship to the poor; and that, on the contrary, it will tend to the improvement of their condition by cultivating habits of independence and thrift.

In this connection we wish to recommend that the poor laws of the state be recodified. These laws have been amended from time to time until they are inconsistent in some particulars and inadequate in others. Some fifteen counties are operating under special laws which vary in their provisions and create confusion in their administration.

The attention of this board has been called to the fact that Minnesota suffers materially from the importation into the state of paupers, insane persons, and other dependents, who, although they have not a legal residence in the state, become a charge upon our people and help to overcrowd our institutions.

In one of the hospitals for insane seven cases were reported at one time of persons who had been committed to the hospital although they had no legal residence in the state. The case of Mrs. Marie Ricks will illustrate pointedly the imposition to which the state is subject under our present law. This woman is a resident of Wisconsin who

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spends most of her time in insane hospitals and prisons. Although she is not a resident of Minnesota, and it is doubtful whether she is insane, she has been committed to each of the Minnesota hospitals for insane at least twice, and at present is an inmate of the Rochester Hospital for Insane, where she was committed as an inebriate. The law requires the county authorities in such cases to send the persons to the state in which they have a legal residence, but the law is totally inoperative. A blind pupil was recently found in the Minnesota School for the Blind who had been sent into Minnesota by the authorities of a county in North Dakota. Cases have been reported of people who have moved into Minnesota from other states in order to place members of their family in the public institutions of this state; and cases are constantly occurring where the public authorities are compelled as a matter of humanity to provide for paupers who have not a legal residence.

The secretary of this board has made a careful investigation of the subject of the interstate migration of paupers, insane persons, and other dependents and has prepared a bill entitled "An act to define the residence of insane persons, paupers and other dependents, and to provide for the return of non-residents to their places of residence."

The principal features of the proposed law are as follows:

1. That continuous residence for one year in any community shall establish a legal residence, and that time spent in a public institution and time during which the pauper has received public aid shall not be counted towards establishing a residence.

2. That non-residents shall not be admitted to state institutions except by special act of the state board of corrections and charities.

3. That alleged non-residents shall be investigated by the state board of corrections and charities, and if found to be residents of another state or country may be removed thereto at state expense; and if found to be residents within

the state, they shall be sent to their proper residence at the expense of the community to which they belong.

4. Disputes of towns or cities in the same county with reference to the residence of paupers to be settled by the board of county commissioners; the decision of said board, or the decision of the state board in state cases, to be subject to appeal in district courts.

5. Agents of railroad companies or other common carriers are forbidden, under penalty, to bring paupers into the state or to transfer paupers from place to place within the state, either at reduced rates of fare or by free transportation, unless the ticket is accompanied by a certificate signed by some public officer or responsible agent of some charitable organization, saying that the person is going to his legal residence, or to friends, or to other responsible parties, or that he is able to earn a living and is being sent to some place where he has a definite prospect of employment.

6. The law empowers the state board of charities to enter into an agreement with the authorities of other states which shall adopt concurrent legislation, for the arbitration of disputed questions between such states respecting the residence of insane persons, paupers and other dependents, and for the return of such persons to their proper residence.

We recommend the enactment of an act containing the essential features herein embodied. We are convinced that it is important to check the influx of non-resident dependents by means of county action and that the only practicable method is by a special state agency.

A MODEL CLUB.

After an existence of ten years of the Evening Home and Library Association of Philadelphia, the club came into possession of a building of its own. This association from the outset has endeavored to afford to working men and boys

opportunity for wholesome recreation, entertainment and instruction, but with their entrance into the new building the first attempt towards self government was undertaken. It speaks well for the ten years' training that a body of able and intelligent young men stood ready who were well fitted to face responsibilities and to become leaders of the younger members. A new constitution and by-laws were adopted at this time, and a governing council elected from the members. Now that the Evening Home and Library Association has a new building, as well as a new constitution and government, it has been able to enlarge its work until it is indeed a model club for men and boys.

Usually an assembly room is free to members of a club, but the assembly room of the Evening Home and Library Association is absolutely free to anyone who wishes to come, and there is an average attendance of about a hundred, the rooms being open every night in the week. A branch of the Philadelphia library, containing 2400 volumes, is in an adjoining room. Great interest is manifested in this department, and from forty to sixty books are taken out daily. A smaller room is for men only, no boys being admitted. This is a reading room where smoking is allowed. Checkers are played here, and coffee is also served. The boys, too, have a coffee room, and the management favors them with cakes and hot broths in winter and lemonade in summer at the lowest possible prices.

In the near future dormitories, lecture and class rooms, gymnasium with apartments for the superintendent, shower baths and dressing rooms will be completed. Already the gymnasium is partially finished and equipped, and there are classes several nights in the week.

One of the most interesting features of the club is the cooking classes. There are three classes, each meeting one night in the week. The pupils are all boys, who pay ten cents a month for instruction. Plain cooking and practical housework are taught, and many a home profits by this teaching. The boys are not in the least ashamed of learn-

'ng to cook. On the contrary, the classes are so popular that there could be many more were there only the funds to pay for them. The usual night school meets three nights in the week. A drawing class and a class in physiology and natural history are well attended. Music is taught in the choral class, the boys' singing class, and the piano classes. The last is in great favor, but teachers are few.

The Evening Home Chess Club has a membership of boys from 15 to 19 years old. Three team matches and a handicap tournament were conducted towards the close of last season, and chess buttons, which are proudly worn, were presented by the referee to the successful players.

The stamp saving system is pursued in this club, and a large number of depositors are interested in it. It is a great thing for the boys to find themselves capitalists.

While so much is done in the association to instruct the boys and to improve them, amusements and entertainments are also considered important. Every fortnight there is an entertainment suited to the audience, and great thought and care are expended in making them attractive. They are given on Saturday evenings, when questionable amusements are open all about them, the object being to compete with these places. The boys bring their friends, and so popular are these entertainments that the room is always filled.

The Evening Home and Library Association is one of the most thoroughly organized clubs of its kind. It invites inspection, and people interested in this educational work will receive much assistance by studying such an association as this. The club now has its headquarters on Albion street, above 21st and Chestnut streets, and is steadily increasing its work. It is an institution that is needed, it has shown that it is needed, and it deserves hearty support and interest.

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SURVEY OF THE FIELD.*

BY GENERAL E. WHITTLESEY.

The year has been a quiet one in Indian affairs. There have been no disturbances, no excitements; but there has been a steady improvement in education and industry among our Indians. The disturbances that troubled us last year at Jackson's Hole in Idaho have been settled by the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States,—a decision that declares that the state laws in reference to game are to be obeyed by Indians as well as white men. This decision of the Supreme Court seems a hardship to the Indians; but there are considerations that may reconcile us to it. One is, when this reliance upon the game of the country for support is broken up, the Indians will be led to turn their attention to the soil and its cultivation as a means of maintenance. Another is that the decision settles the legal status of the Indian, and puts him upon an equality with the white man. That is the principle for which we have contended in this Conference, and which you remember was so earnestly and ably advocated by our lamented friend, Judge Abbott.

The condition of affairs in the Indian Territory has not materially improved; but there is a beginning of light even there. It is significant that in the appropriation bill passed last winter, in the appropriation for defraying the expenses of the commission to the five civilized tribes, it is expressly declared "to be the duty of the United States to establish a goverment in the Indian Territory which will rectify the many inequalities and discriminations now existing in that Territory, and afford needful protection to the lives and property of all citizens and residents thereof." I think that is a gleam of light upon this subject; and we may hope for further legislation. It is also significant that in the late election in the Choctaw country the party in favor of the

* A paper read at the Mohonk Indian Conference, October, 1896.

division of their lands and of United States citizenship was successful. We hope something from that, and that the influence of it may spread among the other tribes in that territory.

One step of progress has been made during the past year, and that is the extension of the classified civil service over almost every branch of the Indian service. All persons, except those nominated for confirmation by the Senate, are now under the civil service rules; and it is provided that Indians may be appointed to such positions as they are competent to fill. This recognition of the merit system will certainly lift the standard of the service in every way; and I am sure it makes glad the heart of one who has been in this Conference and in public assemblies all over the country advocating this reform and fighting against the spoils system,—Herbert Welsh.

The work of education has gone on well, though no great advancement has been made. There is, however, steady improvement under the able superintendency of Dr. Hailmann, backed up by the Commissioner. The number enrolled during the last year in all the Indian schools was 23,393, an increase of 357 over the enrolment of the previous year. The average attendance has been 19,121, an increase of 933 over the attendance of the previous year. In addition to this 558 Indian children have been placed in public schools in the states and territories under a contract with the Indian office. The appropriations for the support of the Indian schools for the current year on which we are now entered amounts to $2,517,265, so that there is an increase this year over last year of about twenty-two and a half per cent. During the three previous years there had been a slight falling off. In addition to this there is also an appropriation of $15,000 for matrons, and of $65,000 for additional farmers. This is really educational work as much as any other. This $80,000 added to the $2,517,265 gives us nearly $2,600,000 for the coming year for the work of education.

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The amount set apart for contract schools for the current year, including the appropriations for Hampton and Lincoln, is $257,928, about half that was devoted to that purpose two years ago. Taking out the appropriations to Hampton and Lincoln, the amount appropriated for contract schools is $204,488.

I am sure that you will be glad that the Commissioner has a larger fund at his disposal for next year, and that he will be able to add several important schools to those now in existence. It is contemplated to build a large school at Rosebud Agency, and another at the Pine Ridge as soon as possible. Some others are projected.

The allotment of lands has continued with perhaps as great rapidity as the exigencies of the service would warrant. During the last year, patents were issued and delivered to 2,283 allottees. Patents were made out, and are ready to be delivered, amounting to 919. Allotments were approved and sent to the department to have the patents prepared, amounting to 2,658; and additional schedules of allotments have been received at the Indian office, but not yet examined, amounting to 3,623. Last January I had the records of the Indian office very carefully examined in order to ascertain how many allotments had been made since 1887,—when the general allotment was approved—and the summary is 49,957 allotments, and patents issued, 33,732. Up to this date there have been nearly 60,000 allotments made, and about 35,000 patents issued.

That shows the magnitude of the work; and yet it is ten years almost since the allotment bill was approved and passed, and an immense amount of work in that direction yet remains to be done. I should have added that non-reservation Indians have received 606 allotments and patents. They take up their allotments under the homestead laws, in the public lands, the government paying their fees for them.

There has been, during the year, no general legislation upon Indian affairs of great importance. The bill for the reorganization of the Indian Bureau failed to receive atten-

tion in Congress, The bill for the establishment of a government in the Indian Territory also failed. Another bill of very great importance has failed for two years in succession; that is, the act for the prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors to allottees. Complaints come up to us from all quarters of the disastrous effects of liquor-selling, coming in under the laws as they have been interpreted by judges of state courts; and there is now a free sale of intoxicating liquors to Indian allottees. Commissioner Browning prepared a bill, two years ago, to meet this difficulty, and it was passed by the House of Representatives, but failed to receive attention in the Senate. Last year the bill was introduced in both houses. It received the approval of the Committee of the House, but no further action was taken. In the Senate it was referred to the committee, and nothing more was heard of it. Now I hope that every member of this Conference who knows a member of Congress will give him no rest until he takes hold of this measure and tries to see it through. It is of vital consequence. The allotment of lands, and the securing of homesteads, will be an utter failure if we allow intoxicating drinks to come in and ruin the Indians to whom these allotments have been made.

When we think of the condition of affairs twenty years ago, or even fifteen years ago, when the idea of this Conference took shape in the mind of our good friend and brother, Mr. Smiley, we cannot help rejoicing and thanking God for what has already been accomplished. We have seen the spoils system in the Indian service substantially overthrown. We have seen the school system organized and put into good shape, so that it will accomplish more and more year by year. We have seen this work of allotment going on year after year, until multitudes of Indians now are settled upon their homesteads; and the department is doing all in its power to aid those who take up their allotments in the way of building houses, furnishing tools, and seeds. So that all over the land Indians are getting to work; and they

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are engaged in many industries besides farming. Many are employed by the government. More than $400,000 was paid to Indian employees at the various agencies and in the schools during the last year, and much more was earned by chopping wood, fishing, and in many other ways.

Though so much has been done, and we see reason to thank God and take courage, there yet remains enough for us to do. We have to maintain the civil service reform against all opposition from whatever source it may come. We have to continue the school work with all the aid we can render by our advice and our material help. We have to work for the moral elevation and the Christianization of the Indians, so that they may resist the temptations that come in upon them from every side. We have to maintain their rights against the men who are determined, in all possible ways, to get hold of Indian property if they can. It seems to be the idea among many men that, if an Indian occupies a piece of land, it must be specially valuable for some purpose, and he wants to get hold of it.

There is another thing in connection with this allotment which we have to work for, and that is to resist too rapid a sale of the unalloted lands. Many of the reservations are good only for grazing purposes, and the great body of land should be held in common by the Indians even after they have taken their allotments, so that they may use it for the herding of cattle, as that is probably the only industry in which many of them can be successful.

I am sure, looking over the whole field, we can say in the words of the old hymn which we have so often sung, "Give to the winds thy fears, hope and be undismayed."

UNIVERSITY OF THE UNITED STATES.

From the Report of the Senate Committee.

The committee to establish the University of the United States, to whom was referred the bill to establish the Uni-

versity of the United States, have had the same under consideration for several sessions, and have heard advocates both for and against the measure.

To those giving a thought to the unparalleled progress of nations in this close of the nineteenth century, there would seem to be no question as to the need of such an institution in the United States as is contemplated in this bill. The spirit of the age calls for deeper penetration into the sciences and arts, and demands better equipped men. Why should not the United States, the cradle of liberty and the leader of enlightened Christendom, contribute her share to the advancement of mankind? Why should we borrow modern educational methods from Europe and patronize foreign institutions? Why should we not build here an institution which would stir the pride and patriotism of American students and furnish facilities unequalled in the world for the extension of knowledge?

The more we know of Washington the broader appears to have been his conception of a great nation and great institutions. Besides giving us a wise constitution and laws, he planned a beautiful city, with wide streets and avenues, with parks and boulevards, rivaling the finest cities of Europe. He saw here the seat of government of a mighty nation, equipped with political and scientific departments, and to utilize these in the promotion of advanced learning he conceived the proposed national university. He talked and wrote about it for years, and at his death bequeathed $25,000 as a first endowment, placing the institution in effect under the fostering care of Congress. Opponents have sought to belittle Washington's idea of a university, contending that he thought of nothing but an institution for political science, or at most but an ordinary undergraduate college. His thoughts were higher than this. His published words are clear and unmistakable. Harvard College, founded almost a hundred years before he was born; Yale College, founded early in the century, and other colleges, South and North, were doing splendid work when this university was proposed.

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Washington spoke of them as seminaries of learning, and to this end endowed the University of Virginia. But in discussing the question of a national university he stated in the address to Congress, 1790, in a letter to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, 1791, and in his letters to Thomas Jefferson, Governor Brooke, and Alexander Hamilton, that his proposed university should be for the higher branches of learning, that "the youth of all parts of the United States might receive the polish of erudition in the arts, sciences, and belles-lettres," and should be open for those who had already passed beyond the seminary training. His fellow-statesmen, who had labored side by side with him in the formation of the constitution, were possessed of the same ideas. Presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson and others united with such distinguished scholars as Dr. Benjamin Rush in declaring for a Federal university, "into which the youth of the United States shall be received after they have finished their studies and taken their degrees in their respective States." At no time was it contemplated to establish a rival of the undergraduate colleges. The vision of these men is worthy the most advanced thinkers of today.

There can be no need for an undergraduate university at Washington supported at national expense. Sectarian colleges have already covered this field. This bill contemplates an institution for men, not for boys subject to class-room drill and control; for men seeking wide fields for scientific and philosophic research, and with the world's best equipments at hand; "an institution broader in its scope, more complete in its organization, more philosophic and practical in its internal regulations, with the highest possible educational standards and aims; an institution above and beyond the best of the colleges, with their loosely attached professional schools, and on its own higher plane existing for the extension and diffusion of all branches of useful knowledge; an institution where the love of knowledge * * * shall be fostered and developed; where advanced students, devoted to any branch of knowledge, whether science, language,

literature, or philosophy, or to any of the combinations of these constituting the numerous professional courses of instruction, shall intermingle and enjoy friendly intercourse as peers of the same realm; where the professors, chosen from among the ablest and best scholars of the world, with absolute freedom of conscience and of speech, shall be not teachers of the known merely, but also earnest searchers after the unknown, and capable by their genius, enthusiasm, and moral power, of infusing their own lofty ambition into the minds of all who wait upon their instruction; a university not barely complying with the demands of the age, but one that shall create, develop and satisfy new demands and aspirations, that shall have power to fashion and mold the age unto its own ideal, and which through every change and every real advance of the world shall still be at the front, driving back from their fastnesses the powers of darkness, opening up new continents of truth to the grand army of progress, so leading the nation forward and helping to elevate the whole human race."

We have no such institution in the United States or on the Western Hemisphere to-day. Between 2,000 and 3,000 American students are abroad each year for post-graduate work in European universities; a confession that American institutions do not fully equip men for special lines of work, It is understood that many prominent American educators, representing our best universities, are at the present time petitioning the universities of France to open their doors to American students for special work—a confession that European universities have facilities that we have not.

The bill before the Senate, as amended, provides:

That a university of post-graduate rank, with facilities for scientific and literary research and investigation, shall be established in the District of Columbia: that the government of the institution shall be vested in a board of regents and a university council; that the board of regents shall be composed of the President of the United States, who shall be president of the board; the Chief Justice of the United

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States, the Commissioner of Education, the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, the president of the National Academy of Science, the president of the National Educational Association, and the president of the University, and nine other citizens of the United States, no two of whom shall be citizens of the same state, to be appointed by the President by and with the consent of the Senate; that the university council shall consist of the board of regents and twelve other citizens of the United States, to be appointed by the board of regents from eminent educators connected with institutions of learning in the United States; that the board of regents shall have exclusive control of the financial administration of the university and all its affairs not confided to the university council.

That the university council shall have power to prosecute and direct the work of the institution in courses of higher instruction, research, and investigation for the increase of knowledge; that it shall also appoint all officers of instruction; that no chair for instruction sectarian in religion or partisan in politics shall be permitted in any form, and no partisan test shall be required or allowed in the appointment of professors or in the selection of any officer of the university; that the facilities afforded by the university shall be open to all who are competent to use them, on conditions prescribed by the executive committee, with the advice of the faculties directly concerned; that degrees shall be conferred upon such persons only as have previously received the degree of bachelor of arts or some equivalent degree, or who have received certificates of graduation from some State educational institution.

That the university shall have authority to establish with other institutions of education and learning in this or in other countries such coöperative relations as shall be deemed advantageous; that in the admission and appointment of persons to places or privileges in the university, character and competency shall be the sole test of qualifications; that as a means of partially providing building sites for the

several departments of the university "University Square," selected and set apart by President George Washington for the use of a national university and heretofore occupied by the Naval Observatory, shall be set apart for the use and benefit of the University of the United States.

That for the organization, preliminary work, and support of the university an appropriation of $15,000 is made for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, and $25,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898. No permanent endowment is contemplated at this time, leaving to Congress in the future to provide for the institution by direct appropriation or by setting aside a portion of the proceeds of the sale of public lands or otherwise. It is the opinion of your committee that a great university can be founded and equipped by the Government at Washington at less expense than at any other place or by any private institution. By act of, and under rules to be prescribed by Congress, all departments and institutions, such as museums, libraries, scientific bureaus, hospitals, and art collections, laboratories, etc., may be placed at the disposal of faculty and students. These in themselves have cost the Government millions of dollars, and would represent an equipment in many lines at the outset unequaled in any country. In and around Washington there exists today a scholarship in scientific lines of the highest degree, all of which could be utilized by a national institution.

Why should we not provide the machinery for an organized university by means of which these splendid equipments may bring rich gifts to the people of our land? Such an institution would complete the grandest educational system in the world, and enable Americans to take a most conspicuous part in those researches and investigations which are essential to the world's real progress. Your committee have amended the bill, and recommend its passage by the Senate.

This report, which we cannot print in full, is followed by letters and speeches of men distinguished as educators, jurists, statesmen, and scientists in favor of the university.

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Mr. John Wesley Hoyt, chairman of the National University Committee of One Hundred, replied to the views of the minority in a report which was submitted to Mr. Kyle, chairman of Committee to Establish the University of the United States. From it we print the following extracts:

"Is There a Necessity for a National University?"

After a page of history setting forth the beginnings and slow progress of the older institutions, the minority report concludes the discussion under this head with sundry statements concerning the facilities already furnished by the more than four hundred colleges and universities of the country, with "their one hundred and fifty millions in productive funds and their aggregate annual income of some twenty millions," saying, last of all, "It would seem there is no longer any necessity for our young men going abroad for college training."

No, not for *college* training, surely. But that there is need of their going abroad for *university* facilities is clearly shown by the important fact that they do actually go by the thousand, and that, too, not unfrequently at a very great sacrifice.

Finally, the minority declare, most surprisingly, that "here in Washington, besides other institutions of high rank which are supported by private means and endowment, we have a grand university representing the Catholic faith, and the American University, representing the Protestant faith, will soon commence the erection of its buildings;" and, finally, that "present and future demands at the capital, it is believed, will be met by institutions existing and projected, embracing all branches of learning and research."

One regrets to speak of such declarations as they deserve. Surely these senators know what constitutes a university, and it is therefore quite incomprehensible that they should have thought to dispose of so important a matter in such a manner. Have they not, rather, in the pressure of many measures, trusted too implicitly the contributions of one

whose high position has secured for him a large measure of confidence? They certainly know that the friends of a national university are not concerning themselves especially with "demands *at the capital*," but rather with the demands of the whole country, and that, as compared with even the foremost universities of Europe, still less with any ideal standard, there is not as yet a single *university* in America —an institution, I mean, wholly above the college and embracing the whole vast field of higher learning, with the best and highest possible training in every field of original work.

Upon further reflection they must realize that if the Catholic, Methodist, and Baptist institutions at Washington *were* universities in even the German sense, they could not, either one or all of them, meet the demands of this great people of seventy millions, embracing citizens of every sect and of no sect. If themselves satisfied that every university should bear some denominational stamp, do they not see that an institution under the most absolute Methodist rule could not meet the demands of all the other denominations? They also understand full well that in their own higher realm letters, science, and philosophy, as well as original work of every kind, are of right free from denominational and party trammels of every name and nature. They must know—what is of vital importance to American education—that neither a Catholic, nor Methodist, nor Baptist, nor any other denominational university could so relate itself to the now incomplete public-school system of the country as to supplement and complete it and thus become a potential agency for the coördination and perfection of the whole series. Nor can they fail to realize that a national university at the seat of the Government, gathering unto itself a multitude of able and aspiring college graduates from every section of the country for yet higher and the highest possible university culture, and again distributing them for a supreme service in every department of intellectual and industrial activity, would become a powerful means of national progress and of national concord. And hence it is confidently

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believed that, upon further consideration, they also will clearly see how well grounded is the conviction of the great body of those most in touch with these matters that such a University of the United States as the Government and people are abundantly able, and therefore in duty bound, to set up would greatly advance the dignity and honor of the Republic; promoting its material prosperity, while so greatly contributing to its intellectual and moral ascendency among the nations of the earth.

"Is a National University Desirable?"

This question has been more than answered already by showing that a crowning and purely post-graduate university is even *necessary* to the efficiency of existing institutions of learning, to the public welfare, and to the honor of the United States.

But "there are many practical difficulties in the way," say the minority. Of course. There are always difficulties in the way of every great cause, the failure to view it comprehensively, clearly, and without prejudice being chief. But the difficulties alluded to in the report of the minority are nothing more nor less than fictitious ones, conjured up primarily and urgently offered by one intent, as it would seem, upon gaining and holding as exclusively as possible this great field of the national capital, made rich by its millions' worth of resources at the public cost, for his own denominational institution. The "difficulties" suggested—partisan, ethical, religious—every one of them, lie as truly in the way of the state universities, one and all (if not, indeed, in greater measure), as against the proposed University of the United States. They are "difficulties" such as the great University of Michigan and other state universities have already shown to be purely imaginary.

With such as make no proper distinction between religion and denominationalism there may be questionings as to the spirit that would pervade a national university; but what reasonable man can doubt that the University of the United

States would, in the nature of the case, be characterized by that love of truth and righteousness and that profound reverence which not only create an atmosphere favorable to purity and nobleness of living, but which are, indeed, the very essence of religion itself. Who believes it could not and would not, in the nature of the case, deal with history, ethics, social and political economy, constitutional and international law in the broadest manner possible, presenting all the differing views of recognized authorities with a breadth, thoroughness, and completeness wholly impossible in any local or denominational university? Who will question that, because of its chief function of leadership in the vast fields of historical research and of ethical, social, economical, and general scientific investigation, it would *of necessity* be characterized by a supremely careful, liberal, and truth-loving spirit and practice? Who believes that a University of the United States, with its many departments under command of the foremost men of the times, could be other than loyal to truth and virtue, nay, religious in the best sense of that term—the sense in which we are and must remain a religious people, the sure and faithful guardians of interests so at once universal and vital?

It is an encouraging sign of progress in the study of this subject that the old-time question of "political interference" has not been seriously revived either by the minority of the Senate committee or by Bishop Hurst and his followers. It is more than a sign of progress; it is evidence, indeed, that, with men willing to give attention to the subject, such presupposed interference is no longer a ground of anxiety. Such men have noted the history and present status of the Smithsonian Institution, of the scientific and educational bureaus of the Government (no one of which is ever tampered with politically), and of the present state universities.

Like President Eliot, they have seen the progress of civil-service reform and the rapid decay of "political influence." They have also seen how carefully the pending university

bill guards against the possibility of it by associating with the nine regents of Presidential appointment, for the choice of all officers of instruction and for the internal management of the university, six non-political members, to wit, the Chief Justice of the United States, the Commissioner of Education, the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, the president of the National Academy of Sciences, the president of the National Educational Association, and the president of the university, together with twelve other citizens of the United States to be appointed by the regents from among eminent educators connected with leading institutions of learning in as many states.

Moreover, it is beyond question that the higher the rank and work of an institution or bureau, the less the danger of political meddling; and hence that the proposed University of the United States with its work of instruction and research quite beyond the range and familiar acquaintance of the great public, would, in the nature of the case, be free from this sort of embarrassment.

It is confidently believed, therefore, that a careful and unprejudiced weighing of all these facts and considerations will put a final end to this ancient query among the sincere friends of science and learning throughout the country.

INTERIOR DECORATION OF SCHOOLHOUSES.

BY WALTER GILMAN PAGE.

In November, 1894, under the auspices of the Public School Art League, the New England Conference of Educational Workers, and the Boston Art Students' Association, there was held in Boston an exhibition of photographs,

reproductions of standard works of art suitable for schoolroom decoration. Also in Brooklyn, during the months of March and April of the year 1896, there was held a similar exhibition, under the direction of the section on Art Education of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.

These two events are the most important connected with the subject of schoolhouse decoration since the movement first began in this country, but there is yet to be held an exhibition which shall give a clear idea of the proper order and grade of pictures, perfectly suited to the age and understanding of the child, from the kindergarten through the High School.

In these two exhibitions I refer to, nearly if not quite all the photographs belonged to the highest grades of the Grammar Schools, and more particularly to the High Schools. While, on general principles, association with works of art of the highest order cannot begin too soon, yet we want more than association, or mere contact and environment; we want interest, and, in consequence, understanding.

To explain myself somewhat more in detail, I will give a rough outline, merely suggestive of how I would distribute works of art through the different grades.

For Kindergarten and Primary grades I would suggest pictures of the simplest natural objects, such as birds, their nests and eggs, wild flowers, trees, and scenes of rural life, such as town children seldom see, and country children often fail to enjoy. Pictures of animals in friendly relation with human beings, especially with children; landscapes and marine views; some of these various subjects to be illustrated in color, proper attention being paid to artistic merit.

For grammar grades I would use historical portraits, and scenes from history, with particular and special reference to the men and events connected with the life of our own country; pictures of architectural works of historic or artistic interest; such reproductions as are available from the numerous works of the old and modern schools of painting; and, as many of our boys and girls do not go beyond the Gram-

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mar School, a judicious selection of casts from the antique should be included.

For High Schools, you have simply to choose from the best, the product of all the ages,—the art of Greece and Rome, the Renaissance, down to the present day; the field is broad, and the task the easier.

All these subjects I have so briefly outlined have their practical uses in the schoolroom, in correlation with drawing, history, geography, and natural history. Certainly the æsthetic sense is pleased, and the daily routine made pleasanter, amid such surroundings, for nothing to my mind is more depressing than bare walls.

The present generation cannot do better than to inform itself somewhat as to what constitutes American art, and particularly that portion which belongs to the period of the war of the Revolution, illustrated through the masterly portraits by that prince of portrait painters, Gilbert Stuart, and the historical pictures by John Trumbull. I trust the day is not far distant when their names and their works will be known to all the children of the land.

In addition to selecting photographs and casts with reference to their character and suitability to age and comprehension, I would advise that they bear a relation to one another. In order to accomplish this, it will be necessary to fix upon what it is desired to illustrate upon the walls of some particular schoolroom.

Let it be a Greek room, Roman room, Egyptian room, or let it illustrate English literature or French history; different sections of the country through photographs representative of characteristic features, birds and animals, etc.; but let all these different subjects be placed by themselves. To mix them up in one room, no matter how good in itself each particular object may be, will make the result discordant, though there may exist certain conditions which might render it necessary to include a variety of objects in one room.

It is always best to give a good frame to every photo-

graph, and it is always desirable to frame under glass. It is not usual or customary for us to use cheap frames and no glass in our homes; why should we do less for the schoolroom?

The very best form of reproduction is none too good. To be sure, it is the most expensive, and financial conditions are not always such that it is feasible to carry out the plan of obtaining the best. Nevertheless, the best is the thing to aim at, and attain if possible, for in no country to-day does there exist so broad a field for good as the opportunity of bringing the best that art has to offer into our schoolrooms.

In the old world the æsthetic sense is constantly stimulated by what is offered on every side, while in our own land, where art is to have her future throne, at present we have barely made a beginning.

The next generation is to witness an immense advance in all that relates to the fine arts, therefore it is important that we prepare the way. "Though the amount of time given to æsthetic subjects in the public schools is small, and to increase it is entirely out of the question, yet all the more for this reason does the plan of decorating schoolrooms deserve, as it is now receiving, favorable consideration. Surround young people during school hours with pictures and statuary, set off by tinted walls, and the silent beauty irradiating therefrom will quicken and purify the taste without encroaching upon school time, or interfering with school work." But, while we agree to this, and while we welcome all that can be accomplished in this direction, let it be remembered by those who can aid the most in this work of interior decoration of schoolhouses, that primarily schoolhouses are for practical ends, towards whose fulfilment the introduction of objects of art must serve as a valuable aid, and not as an impediment. In fact, I sincerely trust that the school committee of the future will consider the furnishing of the walls of a schoolroom as much a part of its duty as furnishing desks and books; for as Americans we have

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developed too much on one side, considering nothing but that which appeals to us as practical, and ignoring that through which the glory of the past has been handed down to us.

EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

Two years ago we gave in this magazine a sketch of Edith Thomas, a deaf, dumb and blind girl, then fifteen years old, who is being educated at the Perkins Institution for the Blind, at South Boston. Since that time her progress has been most satisfactory. While not a brilliant girl, she is persistent and painstaking in her studies and has developed most wonderfully during her life at the Institution. She has good common sense, and plenty of courage and perseverance. Arithmetic is still the study that she dislikes, while geography is a constant delight to her.

Mr. Anagnos, the secretary of the Institution says of her:

"Edith belongs to that class of persons who are tremendously earnest in all their undertakings and who prize independence far above everything else. Her life affords a valuable lesson of self-discipline, self-control, right-mindedness and self-reliance. Truth is the background of her being and the vital motive of her conduct. Her thoughts and actions are governed by it, and no power on earth could tempt her to deviate from its promptings so far as to consent to claim as her own the literary work of others. So scrupulous is she upon this point that she could not be brought to consent to use even a phrase which did not emanate from her own mind or which had been already employed by others."

From the story of Edith's progress as told by Miss Marrett, in the annual report, we make the following extracts:

"One of the most noteworthy signs of Edith's progress is the constant enlargement of her vocabulary. Her present attitude toward new words is that of eagerness to know their

meaning, and to improve the first opportunity for their use.

"During a reading exercise, her fingers encountered the word thunderstruck. She immediately paused to learn its significance, and, later in the day, she surprised her teacher by saying: 'I am *thunderstruck* when strangers ask me if I like arithmetic.'

"One of her compositions contained this sentence: 'He was small of stature.' The source of the concluding word was readily traced to the following lines from a recent reading lesson:—

> Of stature tall, and slender frame,
> But firmly knit was Malcom Graeme.

"In the course of a conversation with her room-mate, Edith asked Etta if she had heard her saying her prayers the previous night, and then added: 'Oh, I prayed mightily, yes, mightily!' This fervent statement induced a question concerning the origin of the word 'mighty.' 'That,' responded Edith with an air of pride, 'is one of my new favorites.' A few days afterward, when she had been told that the school's weekly deportment record contained a very large number of marks, she said, 'I do wish the girls would try to do better, I try; I am mightily stirred about this.'

"There has been, for the past few months, a noticeable subsidence of Edith's energy in the writing of original stories as a means of diversion. It is evident, however, that the present cessation of literary achievement is only temporary, since she has prepared, for her future use in narrative composition, the following list of subjects:—*The Little Queen.—The Ruler of the Mighty.—The Angel and the Sinner.—My Favorite Birds and Flowers.—The Historical Story of the Armenians.—The Little Maiden and the Flowers.—Children Lost in the Thickets.—Kind Words and Noble Deeds.—Teaching of the Bible to the Heathen.—Eternity and Spiritual Truths—Let not He that Putteth forth His Hand to the Plough, Look behind Him.*

"Edith could not read the story of *Aladdin* fast enough to satisfy her eager curiosity. She made a novel attempt to

increase her speed by placing one hand upon the first paragraph of the lesson and the other hand upon the succeeding paragraph, in the hope of gaining time by using them simultaneously; but her ingenuity could not, in this instance, be made to serve her purpose, and she was forced to return to the old, reliable method. Edith's keen delight in the mystical account of Aladdin was explained when she said that it reminded her of the Bible miracles, in which she has always been deeply interested.

"When Edith had studied geography but a few months, she said: 'I like geography best of all my studies. I think it is the greatest, because it tells all about God's great world. I think sometimes when I am studying it that I am seeing the great forests and rivers.' This sentiment would find a very strong echo in Edith's heart to-day, for her devotion to her prime favorite has been unwavering.

"She has learned a great deal about the eastern continent from the geography lessons of the past year. With clay in hand to mould the mountain chains and river systems, and with a tangible means of locating the important places along the route, she has made the tour of Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia with all the enthusiasm of the genuine traveller. Her imagination has been stimulated by vivid descriptions derived from geographical works in embossed print or from books in ordinary type, her teacher interpreting the latter to Edith by means of the manual alphabet.

"In journeying through the Alpine region its famous tunnels had a novel interest for Edith, and were graphically represented upon her board map by her own skilful excavations in the clay representation of the mountain range of which they form a part.

"Edith has not yet reached the point where she is willing to meet the requirements and accept the responsibilities of her years. She continues to claim many of the privileges of childhood to which she is conscious that she has no very valid right. Upon one occasion a teacher who had cause to censure Edith for very childish behavior, which led to seri-

ous difficulties, said to her: 'You know that you are seventeen years old, and that you are expected to behave more like a young lady.' Edith responded with decided emphasis: 'I do not want to be seventeen.' This remark cannot fail to elicit the sympathy of those who know Edith best. Her education did not begin so early as that of the ordinary child, and her progress during the first years of her mental and moral training was so slow as to seem little more than a gradual awakening. There was not the beautifully symmetrical unfolding of the threefold nature which characterizes the normal development of child life; but each new year now means for Edith a positive advance, and is fraught with hope for the future.

It has been our custom in this magazine to call attention every year to the miracles which are being wrought at the Kindergarten for the Blind, in connection with the Perkins Institution, in South Boston. Ten years of work have shown us wonderful results. The last year sixty-four little boys and girls have benefited by this education. Little Tommy Stringer is now ten years old. As the report says:

"At the time of his arrival in Boston the unfortunate child was nothing more than a mere mass of living, breathing clay; a helpless little animal, apparently without great intelligence, and not unlike a puppy in some of his instincts and characteristics; a sentient being in human form, disinherited of his human estate and devoid of the slightest idea of the world around him. No ray of light, no wave of sound, could reach him. Afflicted childhood could hardly present a more pitiable and hopeless wreck than he then was."

He was at once placed under the care of a special teacher and has indeed become a changed child. Under the instruction of Mr. Larsson he has made excellent progress in sloyd work for which he seems to have great liking. He grasps the ideas readily and executes his tasks with neatness and accuracy. On the other hand, clay modelling does not in the

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least appeal to him. He is much interested in nature and the park in Jamaica Plain is his favorite resort.

"But what he has enjoyed exceedingly is his introduction to geography through the medium of sand. First he made a plan of the kindergarten grounds, using toy houses to represent the buildings. Next came Centre street, with rows of shells for the stores and the small figure of a boy to make trips between the kindergarten and the stores. Tom tried to see how many different routes the boy could take back and forth, and named the streets traversed. The scope of representation was then enlarged to include all that he could give of Jamaica Plain, not omitting the beloved park. Everything was well located, and it is Miss Conley's opinion that Tom could find his way all over Jamaica Plain if he had the confidence to go alone. From this he started afresh and took a wider field. Jamaica Plain, Roxbury, Boston, and South Boston were represented in their relative positions, points of the compass located, and dwellings of friends set down. Next he made a plan of the town of Grafton, where he has friends and of which he has many pleasant memories. Then South Boston was again taken in hand, with the Perkins Institution, his friend Fred's house and several other well-known spots indicated. When reviewing the subject afterwards he remembered not only the general plan but the names of several of the streets."

The account given by Miss Poulsson in the annual report of Tom's care for one of the younger scholars is most interesting, showing his kindly disposition and thought for others.

"For little Homer, the five-year-old child at the kindergarten, afflicted like himself, Tom evinces a protective care, seeming to understand his helplessness. Homer possesses a fascination for him, and Tom likes to be with him and find out what he his doing. He followed him into the dining-room once at supper time, and seated himself to follow Homer's movements. After asking what Homer was eating, he took the fork and began to feed him, conducting the food from the plate to the mouth of the wondering child with an

accuracy which was remarkable. Homer could scarcely have rebelled had he wished to do so, for Tom held his neck in a vise-like grasp with one hand while he fed him with the other.

"At another time Tom was walking in the hall with Homer. He seemed to feel that the entire charge of the child rested upon his shoulders, and after a time wearied of the responsibility. Hearing the sound as of some one mounting the stairs, Miss Conley and Miss Shaver hurried into the hall and there saw the pair already half way up the steps. It is an exceedingly slow and wearisome task for even the teachers to pilot Homer from one floor to another, but Tom was marching him over the ground at a lively pace, yet with the utmost care, shielding him so effectually with his arms that he could not possibly fall. On the way to Homer's room the top of another stairway had to be passed. Tom placed himself between Homer and the dangerous point, and when the desired room was reached, he opened the door and put Homer inside, and, with a look of relief, quickly shut it. Then for a few minutes he stood with his nose pressed against the crack of the door, to see if Homer would endeavor to come out. Satisfied at length that he had gained a legitimate relief from his self-imposed responsibility, he went down-stairs to his play.

"Again, when Tom was trying so amuse Homer, he gave him his button box. Finding Homer entirely unappreciative, Tom selected some of his own prime favorites and fairly forced them into Homer's hand, determined that he should notice them. Then, as the button box was at hand, Tom went to Miss Conley and asked for a needle and thread, and had soon replaced a lost button on his blouse by a large brass one which he had chosen from the box. It was fastened securely when he had finished, but the stitches were rather conspicuous."

He is a roguish little fellow and oftentimes has to submit to some gentle punishment. On the whole his progress has been so remarkable that the teachers may well be encouraged in such work as this. The authorities of the School

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for the Blind in Pittsburg, Pa., have watched his progress with interest and now announce that they will soon "be in a position to care for all such utterly helpless children," and that they have not had "the least desire to impose upon others a work that they should do themselves."

While Tommy has been the means of bringing about this change in Pennsylvania, he is, unfortunately, unable to profit by it, although Pennsylvania is his native state. He is now and probably must be for the years he will be in school, supported by kind friends who give yearly towards his education.

Willie Elizabeth Robin is now twelve years old and after six years at the kindergarten, she is about to be transferred to the institution at South Boston. She is an exceedingly beautiful and attractive girl; rejoicing in perfect health and good spirits. She has remained a year longer at the kindergarten than she would have done had there not been a lack of room at the Institution, but she has improved her time and has been a faithful pupil.

"As a beginning in the study of American history, she has been told stories of colonial days, and has written very readable accounts of *The Boston Tea Party*, *The Indians*, *Indian Troubles*, *George Washington*, *Roger Williams*, *William Penn*, *Benjamin Franklin*, *The French and English*, and a story of the Acadians, which she calls *Driven into Exile*.

"She is fond of this branch of study, but, like Edith Thomas, her imagination is most fired and her zeal for study most awakened by geography. Her reproductions of the geography lessons are extremely good, and the scope of subjects may be seen in the following list, which is a characteristic though not complete showing of what she has done: *The Oceans* (first in general and then in particular), *Shores or Coasts*, *Rivers* (in general, then several in particular), *East and West Indies*, *Holland*, *Switzerland*, *Greenland*,

Volcanoes, *Vesuvius*, *Japanese People*, *Forms of Water*, *Coal*."

"Zoölogy has had its fair share of favor from Willie, in spite of the two newer claimants. She has written reviews of what she has learned about the *Bat*, *Porcupine*, *Hedgehog*, *Frog*, *Crab*, *Butterfly*, *Spider*, *Scorpion*, *Fishes*, and besides these a few reproductions of stories relating to animal life.

"In reading she has gained greatly. She has read aloud regularly from the embossed page and has improved very much in smoothness and rapidity of utterance. Being less hampered by the medium, she has comprehended more clearly the subject-matter, and consequently has read with more interest and expression. Susan Coolidge would surely be glad to know of the delight which Willie, as one among her numerous girl readers, has taken in that charming story of *What Katy Did*.

"Willie can now express herself in articulate speech with considerable freedom. She is fond of talking, and is understood easily by all who habitually associate with her and to a greater extent than heretofore by friends not living at the kindergarten and by strangers. Some sounds cannot be uttered without a struggle, perfection ever fleeing ahead of attainment. The sound of *g* has presented much difficulty. Wearying of the correction of its pronunciation, Willie pleaded with her teacher for cessation of effort: 'I have a way to say it and it is much easier than your way. *Please* let me say it *my* way.'

"Like the other girls, she learns poetry, 'by heart,' and recites it. She does not learn it easily, but she has mastered during the past year, *The Fringed Gentian*, *My Shadow*, *The Double Sunflower*, *The Legend of the Christmas Rose*.

"Willie is inclined to be prompt about most things, but not about letter writing. At one time a pencil that was 'way up' (dull) turned her aside from the dutiful course of finishing a letter which she had commenced. Again, when

she should have written a letter to her mother, it was put off with: 'I am so busy now, I am afraid I can't;' but this was followed by a feeling of self-reproach so strong as to cause her to leave what she was deeply interested in and seek out her teacher, saying: 'I always think a great deal of my mamma, and I love her a great deal and want to see her; but I will get ready to write after dinner.'

"Notwithstanding these epistolary shortcomings, which are really very slight, considering the amount of writing she is obliged to do, Willie has the punctilio of a Lord Chesterfield about letters of acknowledgment. Her sense of what is due from others as well as from herself in this respect was displayed rather comically in one instance. She had made a pair of slippers and sent them to a distant friend who had shown her many kindnesses. The non-arrival of the expected acknowledgment in what she thought an extremely ample interval of time brought forth a comment of wonder from Willie. Miss Smith suggested excuses for the delinquent friend. 'But,' insisted Willie, 'she could write me just a postal and say

DEAR WILLIE: Thank you for the slippers. They fit me.
Your friend, Mrs. X.

She needn't write a long letter,"

When we read of the change which takes place with such children as Helen Keller, Willie Robin, Edith Thomas, Tommy Stringer and others, one must feel that such an institution demands the support of the public. These children are not Massachusetts children only, but the Kindergarten for the Blind in Mass., is doing a pioneer work which will sooner or later be followed by similar institutions in other states. An effort has been made to raise an endowment fund but it yet lacks nearly $34,000 of being complete. It should receive contributions from charitable people from every state in the Union. The buildings are filled to overflowing and crowded to their utmost limit and children are waiting opportunities to come. Friends of this education

are needed now more than ever, and it is of great importance that steps should be taken at once to provide additional room for these unfortunate and neglected children. Two new buildings are asked for and it is to be hoped that when the next annual report is printed we shall find that they have not been asked in vain.

NEEDS OF THE MOUNTAIN PEOPLE.

BY MARY HULL MORSE.

The mountain people of the South are Americans of sturdy European ancestry, and largely of Scotch-Irish descent. History contains no record of greater bravery and sacrifice than these men exhibited for the preservation of the Union. From among them have come brave generals and brilliant statesmen. Yet three generations of poverty, isolation, and neglect have left them, as a class, dwarfed physically, mentally, and morally. But our schools and the self-sacrificing labors of Christian workers are arousing them to a strong desire for better things. Now is the time to give them the pure gospel, and those educational advantages which are the birth-right of every American.

Oh, so barren and dreary are the little one-roomed, windowless log cabins of the sections we have visited! Large families of men, women, and children often live in the one room. The furnishings are most meagre, three or four scant beds, with frames perhaps of rough boards, a few splint bottom chairs and a rude table. The one redeeming feature is the immense stone fire place, on whose loose-laid hearth the children, cats, and dogs huddle for warmth. Unless the wind drives the smoke and ashes into your face, you would enjoy sitting in the big chimney corner and making friends with all the ever warmly welcoming family. "It was quite a scenery for me," as one said, watching the baking of the corn bread. The dough, made of corn meal,

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sour milk and soda, is put into a shallow, three-legged skillet. This is placed on a bed of hot coals, and the lid is heaped with more live embers. Their *menu* is corn-pone, soda biscuit, bacon, beans and black coffee. Add a few vegetables, right from the ground, as there are no cellars or other winter storage. The "festive pumpkin" cut in rings and dried; red peppers, "dried yarbs," and perchance, a huge piece of salted meat adorn—together with their wearing apparel—the cabin walls. Corn is about the only cereal, and this is raised usually for strictly home use. They sometimes suffer for lack of the meal, when the great over-shot wheel of the one stone mill freezes up.

Too often the corn is put to wretched use, as it comes in the shape of whiskey from the "moonshine" or illicit still in the mountain thicket, or the government licensed distillery.

Tobacco is the principal crop. Frequently the entire family, little children being kept out of school, work early and late to raise, cut, and cure it. One year's crop is not disposed of before the next must be begun. Although very hard and unprofitable business, it being their sole reliance for any money, they keep on with it year after year. Brought up in the midst of the vile weed, it is not strange that all, even the children, sometimes mere babies, chew or smoke the snuff sticks. The ignorant doctors recommend it for all the "ills mortal flesh is heir to." While in fact, it is a source of disease and deterioration in many ways.

Interesting and picturesque enough was the sight of a fair haired, pleasant faced woman, carding the wool sheared from her own sheep, and spinning it on the great wheel. This she should, she said, weave into cloth on the neighbor's hand-loom.

In most of the settlements on account of poverty, the "Deestrick skule" is held for only two or three months. But we are more favored in having in addition to the three months free school, a "Prescription school," as one of the school committee called it. The pupils each subscribe fifteen cents per month, in cash, eggs or vegetables.

Would that the importance of education could only be realized, and these schools multiplied throughout the mountain regions. The children are very bright and so pretty and winsome. The people are deeply religious, and usually the staunchest Protestants. The Bible is held in great respect, and infidelity is rarely found. "Goin to meetin" is the event of the week; many walking or riding mule-back for miles over rough mountain roads and forest paths.

Their deep interest causes them to forget how wretched and uncomfortable is the "meetin' house," which is almost the only place for social gatherings, for the singing which they greatly enjoy, and for studying and hearing the word of God. They listen most attentively to the impassioned sermon, but one wonders what benefit can come to these poor, hungry souls from such incoherent, illiterate preaching. One minister where we were, told them again and again "You ought to be trying to uplift your elevation.' Also, in warning them against a narrow spirit, he said, "Prejudice that germinates, inculcates and crops out." Then again he declared with solemn emphasis, "Out of an evil *mouth* proceed murders, envies, and all unrighteousness."

One cannot help coming to sympathize with and to love these people, who are so warm-hearted, generous, possessed of so many good traits, yet, with so much to hinder and oppose, striving to rise to a higher plane of education, religion, and general prosperity. To the frequent question, "How can I help?" I would reply: Pray for the present workers, and that many able and consecrated Christians may join us to do service for the Master. Pray for the people that their hearts may be opened to receive the Light. Send money to furnish supplies for Sabbath and day schools. Good second-hand clothing is always in demand, for they say truly, "We'uns be powerful naked for clothes." Scrapbooks containing bright pictures, short stories, and scripture texts, are welcome. Sunday-school papers, and other good literature, picture cards, and paper dolls fill the children

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with delight. Remnants of bright silks and ribbons for our classes to make into work bags, basted patchwork, holders, etc., are most acceptable.

PEACE OF EUROPE.

BY WILLIAM PENN.

The "Essay towards the Present and Future Peace of Europe" was published by Penn in the latter part of the year 1693-94, while war was raging on the continent. Penn sought to show "the desirableness of peace and the truest means of it" at that time and for the future.

It is interesting to see how it agrees with the plans of more modern times. The extract we print is but one section of the essay.

In my first Section I shewed the *Desirableness of Peace;* in my next the Truest Means of it; to wit, *Justice, not War.* And in my last, that this Justice was the Fruit of *Government*, as Government itself was the Result of *Society;* which first came from a Reasonable Design in Men of Peace. Now if the *Soveraign Princes of Europe*, who represent that Society, or Independent State of Men that was previous to the Obligations of Society, would, for the same Reason that engaged Men first into Society, *viz: Love of Peace and Order*, agree to meet by their Stated Deputies in a *General Dyet*, *Estates*, or *Parliament*, and there Establish Rules of Justice for Soveraign Princes to observe one to another; and thus to meet Yearly, or once in Two or Three Years at farthest, or as they shall see Cause, and to be Stiled, *The Soveraign or Imperial Dyet*, *Parliament*, *or State of Europe;* before which Soveraign Assembly, should be brought all Differences depending between one Soveraign and another, that cannot be made up by private Embassies, before the Sessions begin; and that if any of the Soveraign-

ties that Constitute these Imperial States, shall refuse to submit their Claim or Pretentions to them, or to abide and perform the Judgment thereof, and seek their Remedy by Arms, or delay their Compliance beyond the Time prefixt in their Resolutions, all the other Soveraignties, United as One Strength, shall compel the Submission and Performance of the Sentence, with Damages to the Suffering Party, and Charges to the Soveraignties that obliged their Submission. To be sure, *Europe* would quietly obtain the so much desired and needed Peace, to *Her harrassed Inhabitants;* no Soveraignty in *Europe*, having the Power, and therefore cannot show the Will to dispute the Conclusion; and, consequently, *Peace* would be procured, and continued in *Europe*.

APPLIED CHRISTIANITY.

The Commonwealth Club is a club for the study of social questions, formed in the church of Rev. Henry Hopkins, D.D., of Kansas City. People competent to speak on such subjects as "Labor Unions," "Is the Golden Rule possible in Business," "Sunday Labor," "Divorce," "Working Girls and how to help them," and kindred subjects, have given a series of Sunday evening talks which have attracted large audiences. Discussions have followed the talks and have been taken part in by thoughtful people of all faiths. The result has been to make the church more of a "neighborhood church" and a large number of people are now regular attendants, who formerly spent their Sundays away from all church services.

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INTELLIGENCE.

THE LEND A HAND CLUBS.

MONTHLY MEETING.

The monthly meeting of Lend a Hand Clubs was held January 25th, at the Central Office. Nine members of the committee were present.

Mrs. Whitman opened the meeting by reading a letter received from Southern Virginia, thanking the Clubs for a barrel of clothing that had been sent from the Central Office in December. The contents of the barrel had met the needs of many people.

Mrs. M. wrote a very amusing account of a little white boy who is in her family, and who is now clothed sufficiently well to go to school. The boy's name is Eddie Hall. Mrs. M., in gratitude to the president of the Clubs, gave him the middle name of Everett, which pleases the boy so much that he is now desirous of writing D. D. after it.

Dr. Hale spoke of the Send Me Clubs, and said he desired to see such societies in all the large towns. He cited several where the best people of the town meet eight times a year to discuss broader matters than the little local affairs. These Clubs should be composed of members from all the denominations in the town,—thoughtful people who desire to bring in the kingdom of God. Such a Club would be ready to meet any emergency without waiting for a formal meeting. Miss Kimball spoke of the Port Royal Club,

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which was formed during the Civil war. She said that it met once a week, with an average attendance of twelve. Work in the South appealed to them particularly. Mrs. Dickerman spoke of the Fraternal Council of Jamaica Plain, which is composed of all denominations, the members working most harmoniously to aid the poor and suffering.

Mrs. Tuttle said that a plan of union work similar to the one just spoken of was proposed in Dedham. Already there is a Club of Send Me, in Dedham, so that perhaps it would be wiser to select some other name. Dr. Hale expressed a wish to meet the committee of this proposed union.

Mrs. Whitman reported on the Manassas Industrial School. Miss Dean was in Boston two months. In that time she raised $744.79, and through Rev. C. R. Eliot, tools for the carpenter's shop to the amount of $200, had been sent out. A letter had been received from Miss Dean, saying that she was busy in New York, and hoped to raise a thousand dollars there.

Dr. Hale then read a letter from Kansas, asking assistance for a poor family whose crops had failed.

Mr. Tobey, chairman of the committee on Floating Hospital, reported the contributions were coming in quite well for the purchase of the barge. When the barge is renovated there will be two wards in addition to the cots and hammocks. Experienced physicians are on this committee, and when the barge is complete it will, without doubt, be the most perfect hospital afloat. Competent physicians and trained nurses will be in attendance every trip. The cost of the barge and the fittings will be about $5,000. Of this amount about one-half has already been given.

In answer to a question with regard to the expense of a single trip, Mr. Tobey said that it would cost about $100, and that they would be glad to receive a hundred dollars from a single Club or a union of Clubs, and would designate the trip by the name of the donors. He would like also to invite delegates from such Clubs to make the trip on that

day and learn personally what is being done. It was intimated that one Club already had the matter under consideration.

Letters were read from Sudley Springs, acknowledging a box and a barrel of clothing, and another from an invalid teacher, thanking the Clubs for assistance rendered her.

Dr. Hale said that in Boston, on Cambridge street, there were twenty-seven saloons within a few blocks, and seven more not far distant.' The matter had been brought to his attention by a worthy woman, who desired to open a coffee house in that vicinity. He had referred the matter to the Church Temperance Society, which is doing a most excellent work in the way of coffee houses in the city of Boston.

The secretary said that she had just received another donation from Messrs. Houghton & Dutton, of warm caps for children. The committee expressed gratitude to the firm for such a timely gift.

Announcements were made of the Quarterly Conference at Lynn, to be held February 13th, and also the tenth anniversary of the Lend a Hand Club of Lexington, Mass. The meeting then adjourned.

REPORTS OF CLUBS.

Beaufort, S. C.

I must not forget to thank you for the barrel from Lend a Hand Clubs. Its contents are very nice, and most gratefully received by the needy people.

There has been a demand for all kinds of bedding this winter from those whose houses were destroyed in the September storm. It has often distressed me to have to turn away applicants whom I knew to be most needy. So a while ago I went to the wife of a minister in one of the large colored churches, and talked it over with her. She told me she could arrange the work in the Home Missionary

branch of the Christian Endeavors in her church. Later she called and told me they were ready to begin piecing quilts, and would like bits of cloth of any and all kinds.

I gave her a dollar to buy waste cotton at the cotton gins to fill the comfortables, and added pieces from the barrel and from my piece drawer. This self help is so much better for them than anything we can do for them, and so much in the spirit of Lend a Hand work that you will be glad to hear of it.

But there are many cases that are beyond them, and I am so glad to have garments to bestow. Some of the people can pay a small sum for good garments, so occasionally I take pay in eggs, potatoes, or light wood, and pass on the money to some one who needs medicine, or shoes, or food, but there are more who can't pay than can.

CHARTER OAK, IOWA.

The Lend a Hand Circle made two rag dolls, and cut and tied one hundred small bunches of shavings for kindling, and they have given them all away.

LONDON, ENGLAND.

The girls still meet every Tuesday under the church, and once a month pledge themselves anew to the mottoes.

BOSTON, MASS.

The first annual meeting of the series of Clubs, in Bulfinch Place Chapel, Boston, comprehending members both old and young, was held the evening of January 26th. The attendance was large, and the evening was only too short for all that the Clubs would have been glad to do and say.

The following Clubs were represented: Emergency, John Harvard, Ready Service, Altruist, Abraham Lincoln, Faulkner, Aunt Fanny, Fanny S. Morrill, Red White and Blue, Winkley, and Eliot Clubs, The Cheerful Helpers, Samuel H. Winkley, Faulkner No. 2, Joseph Tuckerman, and Merrill Clubs, also a Club formed in the infant class.

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Mr. Parker of the Emergency Club presided. This Club, ready for any active duty, took the responsible position of host, invited the presence of the others, and made all the arrangements for this agreeable conference.

The young men of the Red, White and Blue Club and other representatives of different Clubs furnished acceptable vocal and instrumental music. One of the youngest Clubs amused and interested the assembly by the account of its pretty benevolences, among which it appeared they had given three dolls to Rev. Mr. Eliot. The general pressure of the meeting compelled him to tell what he had done with his dolls, and to show how at Christmas time they had promoted "peace on earth, good will toward men." The president of the united Clubs was present, and enjoyed the meeting as much as the youngest. He invited the Clubs to send their delegates to Lynn for the conference, to be held the 13th of February.

Ottumwa, Iowa.

The Lend a Hand Club is doing nicely. They have finished piecing one quilt, have another nearly done, and are setting the first one together. They bought the calico with their penny contributions. They are now getting ready to give a concert to raise money to buy wadding and lining for the quilts. The ten little girls will furnish the entire entertainment, to consist of music and recitations. The parents of the children are becoming interested, and the book Ten Times One is going the rounds.

Peabody, Mass.

The Young Worker's Lend a Hand Club of the Unitarian Church, held its 13th annual meeting in the chapel parlors, the afternoon of January 18, with a five o'clock tea. The parlors were well filled with members of the Club and their friends. The annual reports of the varied work of the Club for the past year was given, including country week charities, and many kinds of Lend a Hand work at home and abroad.

Reports of the western correspondence of the Club in Idaho and Montana were given, a letter was read from a young missionary among the Indians in Oklahoma territory, and another interesting letter from a former member of the Club, Miss Clara Ames of Sumner, Washington.

THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY.

On the afternoon of January 26th, the Lend a Hand Club of Lexington celebrated its tenth anniversary. The two younger Clubs, offspring of the Lend a Hand, were present, and a few invited guests. After spirited singing of the Clinton Club song, the secretary, Mrs. Childs, read a most interesting report.

At the first meeting, in 1887, but few were present; at the next meeting there were nineteen. After a year's trial the annual membership fee was increased from ten to twenty-five cents, and has remained so since. A successful sale was held in March, netting $120.

At that time a letter to our pastor told us of a school in Tuskegee, Ala., for the training of colored teachers, and stated their urgent and pressing need of $50 scholarships. It was unanimously voted to pay the whole $50 to give a student a scholarship for one year. Since that time the society has given in all $270 towards the support of students at Tuskegee. But for the four years following the first donation of $50, there were but $20 expended for this object, and in both cases this was to help out a larger amount given by the Sunday-school or by some other society connected with the church. For the last three years this sum of $50 has been given regularly, and I think the Club considers it now one of its established rules that one year's tuition shall be given each year to that most worthy institution.

The next year we started out with the munificent sum of

$1.60 in the treasury, but from receipts of a sale, dues, etc., we gathered faith and hope for the future, and it was our proud privilege to give $100 towards repairing the steps of the church, which gift was very gratefully received by the parish. This is one of the largest sums we have ever given at once to any one object.

The reaction from this generosity seems to have been felt the next year, for the treasurer's report is so pitiably small that we will not dwell upon it.

In 1890 the Club began really to grow, and to show much interest and spirit. It undertook and accomplished the furnishing of a room at the Bellevue Sanitarium, Colorado Springs, which is known as the "Lexington room." This we did at an expense of about $100, buying the furniture and carpet, making the sheets and pillow-cases, and soliciting small articles, such as pictures, ornaments, etc., from the different members of the society.

One of the most important works in which our Club has been engaged from the first, and for which we have shown more interest, and spent more time and money than for any other, is the "Country Week."

In the ten years about $500 have been appropriated for this purpose. For several years we gave this work personal supervision, finding boarding places in Lexington for a certain number of people, mostly children, taking them to and from the boarding places, and visiting them while here to see if everything was comfortable for them. This was found to be by far the most interesting as well as the most satisfactory way to carry on the work. For the last three or four years, however, we have simply given the money voted for Country Week into some general fund for that purpose. The largest number of persons in a season whom we have been able to board here is sixteen; to each of whom we gave the pleasure and benefit of fresh country air for ten days.

One family, consisting of a mother (a widow) and four children, which we heard of through Miss Beale, I think the Club had particular pleasure and satisfaction in helping.

For two or three years, until the mother's death, we continued our aid, sending clothing, visiting, paying her rent and milk bills when she was no longer able to earn the small amount needed. After the mother's death, the children were placed in good homes and all need of aid from us ceased.

Our Club has taken an active interest in the Noon Rest ever since its establishment, in the summer of 1892, and it still continues the work.

From nineteen members, in 1887, the number has increased steadily, until now we have fifty names (the limit membership) enrolled, besides several more on the waiting list.

There have been seventy-seven in all who at different times have been members of the Club. Twenty-eight have been married, six have withdrawn from the society, though more than that number have left it owing to removal from town and various other causes. There have been two deaths, those of Mrs. J. B. Coombs and Mrs. H. W. Macomber.

During the ten years of its existence the Club has spent, besides the money for Tuskegee and Country Week, $224 toward helping the church and Sunday-school. For outside calls for help, such as the Colorado Sanitarium, Mutual Helpers, Flower Mission, etc., $200, and for helping individuals in this town, and others whose needs have been presented to us from time to time, $368.

The average attendance at the regular monthly meetings during the ten years has been eleven.

In some ways this is a record of which we may be justly proud, but with our increase in membership and funds come larger opportunities and greater responsibilities. Let no one rest satisfied that enough has been done, that if there is anything more to be done, somehow, somebody will attend to it, and that an occasional spasmodic interest is enough to take in the Club in the future. If every one who possibly can of the fifty members would take a real, live, constant and never-failing interest, what grand ideas we might evolve! What an inspiring, broad and helpful work it

might become. May this Lend a Hand society in the next ten years know and feel more of this inspiration! Many times ten years may our Club live! May it grow and increase each year in wisdom, in experience, in prosperity, in helpfulness, and truly may it fulfil the object of its being—in every good and noble work to lend a hand.

Short addresses were made by Mrs. Whitman, secretary of the Clubs; Miss Beale of the Children's Aid Society; Miss Emmons of Morgan Chapel, and Rev. Mr. Staples. At the close of the meeting tea was served.

NATIONAL DIVORCE REFORM LEAGUE.

The tenth annual report of the League shows that it has been active in its work and satisfactory in its results. A uniform territorial law has been procured with regard to divorce, which is a gain. It reads:

"No divorce shall be granted in any territory for any cause unless the party applying for divorce shall have resided continuously in the territory for one year next preceding the application."

Twenty-nine states and one territory are now represented by their commissions on uniform legislation. At the last annual conference the following recommendations were made:

"That some ceremony, formality, written evidence, signed by the parties and attested by one or more witnesses, be required in all marriages; that in so-called common-law marriages this evidence be filed in an appropriate office within ninety days, and a failure to do so be made a misdemeanor, and if this be not done, or the marriage be not subsequently ratified, then neither party shall have any right or interest in the property of the other; that stringent provision be made for the immediate record of all marriages; and that the age of consent to marriage shall be raised to eighteen for the male and fifteen for the female."

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They also renew their former recommendation of a strict law providing that no divorce be granted unless the defendant be domiciled, at the time the cause of the action arose, in the state where the divorce is to be granted, or have been served with process within that state, or shall have voluntarily appeared in such action. Uniformity in state legislation is strictly necessary to this reform, and all good citizens are called upon to aid in bringing influence to bear on legislators.

The questions of crime and intemperance are studied, in connection with the home. Dr. Dike pleads for better homes. "Bad homes and heredity," is the answer constantly given as cause of crime. Prof. Hyslop of Columbia University, speaking of intemperance and the family, says:

"The present almost universal tendency is to deal with the problem of intemperance without any reference either to the family or to the individual inebriate. * * It seems that we should first have to teach mankind that the family is the centre from which to view all modern progress: and having made this their habitual way of thinking, we can impress the public with the fact that the temperance problem has a right to treatment from a point within the family." After saying that the family is generally left out of account in dealing with ethical and social questions, and that the strong egoistic impulses of our social life must find correction in the use of the family, he adds: "The family, therefore, being the centre from which the whole problem of ethical and social action has to be considered, I do not see why some method of instruction could not be devised which would render a dependence upon the public school and other foreign agencies unnecessary, or at least regard them as merely secondary instruments to the desired end. I question whether instruction in the family will do all that is desired, and still more I question the final efficiency of methods aiming at a restriction or prevention of the supply of drink. * * * I should think, from *a priori* considerations alone, that it would be as easy to apply some

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method of instruction in the home as it is in the school or the church."

The report considers also the "Family and Good Citizenship," "Home Department of the Sunday-School," "Home in the New Educational Movement," and "Women and the Home." It is the home and the family on which the society lays greater stress than the individual. The work is broad, and it is proposed to change the name of the league to show more what the scope of the work is and the place the home fills.

"This change from the individual to the family is very near the pivot of the social problem of the times. This problem is to discover how we shall learn to take the results of modern individualism, and yet carry on the process of social reintegration. In other words, we are to deal less with mankind as an aggregation of individuals, looking at everything from the egoistic point of view, and learn to think of men in their social relations, thus perfecting individuality by the development of personality, which is the result of growth into the social whole. The life of the family holds in it the key to this problem. Christianity has studied and used the church and the state throughout its history. The time has now come when it needs to make equally thorough study and use of the family. The recent movements in biology, psychology, sociology, and social ethics, emphasize these statements. Our ripest scholars have, therefore, all along recognized the timeliness of the formation of the league and the permanent value of its work."

A Happy Reunion.—On the 23d of December there was a reunion of the members of the "Ten Times One is Ten" society, organized in Fall River ten years ago. Miss Brayton, the founder of the Club, entertained 135 former members at her home.

Among those present were representatives from the advisory board of the Society, its original members and invited

guests. Dr. Edward Everett Hale, the orignator of the "Ten Times One" idea, had hoped to be present, but the severity of the weather prevented him. Dr. Hale sent his Christmas greeting to the Club, and expressed in his letter his sorrow at not being able to meet its members.

In receiving the guests, Miss Brayton was assisted by Miss Julia Read, a member of the advisory board, and by the several presidents of the Society.

During the evening supper was served, after which the company joined in singing the T. T. T. songs. The words of the songs were in very pretty souvenirs, bearing the monogram of the Society and its mottoes: "Look Up, Not Down," "Look Out, Not In," "Look Forward, Not Back," and "Lend a Hand." Instrumental music was rendered by an orchestra, and the time was spent until late in the evening in reminiscences of the organization.

The house was prettily decorated with cut flowers, and the conservatory attracted large attention from the guests, as it was full of choice plants from Mr. Brayton's hot house, many of the plants being in full bloom.

Summer Playrooms.—The children of a great city are especially open to influences, good and bad, during the months when the public schools are closed for the summer vacations. At this season, for several years, the Episcopal City Mission of Boston has opened its playrooms and welcomed the children of the street to genial and elevating influences.

Seven hundred little girls and boys, *daily*, have been regular attendants. Last year there was a corps of nineteen teachers, most of them with kindergarten or normal training, who, while they played freely with the children, had them under complete control. Where the classes exceed sixty, there were three teachers to each company,

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but usually two were sufficient. The children sing and march to the piano, play round games, and sometimes simple dances, like Virginia reel; work perforated cards with gorgeous worsted, mold clay, fold paper in curious patterns, join in the kindergarten sports, and listen to entrancing stories. That they are enthusiastically happy no one can doubt. They themselves, however, are little aware that in all their games their wise and loving teachers are, by example and precept, showing them how to be gentle, kind, truthful, neat, and conscientious. This work reaches all sorts and conditions, black and white, American, Irish, Italian, and Russian; Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jew and Pagan; yet find them all alike, lovable and responsive to kindness and guidance.

Boston Asylum and Farm School for Indigent Boys. —The "Farm School" at Thompson's Island, receives orphans or half orphans between the ages of seven and twelve who are of good moral character, in fair physical condition, and who have not been before the courts. A relinquishment signed by the parent or guardian gives the school control of the boy until he is twenty-one years of age. As a rule he remains in the school until he is fifteen or sixteen and his time here is divided between study, work and recreation in such a manner as best to develop natural aptitude and latent ability, strength and character, that he may go forth equipped for the practical duties of life.

The course of study completes the grammar school grade. The manual training course includes mechanical drawing, carpentry, wood turning and wood carving; and all in turn are employed upon the farm and perform some part in the household duties, including cooking, baking, making and mending of clothing, washing, etc.

Boys are selected according to their capacity to receive instruction in blacksmithing, cobbling, painting, printing and typewriting, and to assist in the care and management of boats and in all general repairs.

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LITERARY NOTE.

A. D. F. Randolph Company have in preparation a Series under the title, KINDERGARTEN IN MISSIONS, (The Junior Missionary Extension Course), by Stephen L. Mershon, comprising twelve villages as follows:

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THE *Century* is about to print a new short serial story by Mary Hartwell Catherwood,—"The Days of Jeanne d'Arc," the result of a very careful study of the history of the maiden warrior of France, and of a pilgrimage to the places she made famous. The story has been in the hands of the editors of *The Century* for some time, but its publication was delayed on account of the recent appearance of Mark Twain's novel on the same subject in *Harper's Magazine*. Mrs. Catherwood is said to treat Joan of Arc in a fresh way and the story is thought to be her very best work.

In the April *Century*, which contains the first chapters, will appear two new portraits of Joan of Arc which have been discovered recently in Alsace.

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